

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1906.

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LITERATURE

George Douglas, eighth Duke of Argyll (1823 - 1900): *Autobiography and Memoirs*. Edited by the Dowager Duchess of Argyll. 2 vols. (John Murray.)

LORD GRANVILLE characterized the late Duke of Argyll's defence of two notable Viceroy, Lord Canning and Lord Dalhousie, in 1858 as the "best speech I ever heard him make, right in tone, substance, and length." Prolixity was, indeed, a marked defect in the utterances of that genuine orator. The fault is no less conspicuous in his autobiography, which occupies the greater part of the two large volumes now published under the careful editorship of his widow. Over fifty pages have to be perused before we reach his birth. They contain some interesting matter, such as an account of his father's escape from Switzerland, with the help of Madame de Staël, after the rupture of the treaty of Amiens; but the Duke might have curbed his pen to advantage. He becomes positively tedious when he devotes page after page of superior commonplace to Italian travel, setting forth his admiration of the Duomo at Florence, his disappointment at the Campo Santo at Pisa, and so on. Froude once declared that he "drew the line at dukes." It is to be feared that that vigorous critic would not have made an exception in the case of the literary remains of his Grace of Argyll.

In spite of its *longueurs*, the autobiography presents an attractive picture of a studious boyhood spent on the Scottish estates of the family, under the eye of a father who was a cultivated man and no mean mechanic. A delicate child, the

future Duke became an ardent field naturalist, and drank in Wordsworth, though the classics, with the exception of Virgil, failed to attract him. We get an animated account of the building of Skerryvore lighthouse by Alan Stevenson, a martyr to his arduous undertaking. "He was," we read, "as gentle and refined as he was brave and strong, and persevering and inflexible in purpose." Keenly addicted to many branches of science, the Duke lost no opportunity of becoming acquainted with their eminent exponents. As a result he gives us a series of appreciative portraits, among them one of the discoverer of the use of anæsthetics:—

"Simpson's own enthusiasm was delightful. I do not know that I have ever met any man in whom genius was written more visibly in face and voice and manner. His spirit seemed to be always quivering in the presence of Nature, as if conscious of her immense suggestiveness, and trembling lest he should miss even the slightest of her hints. It was most interesting to watch the movements of his expression when he or anyone else mentioned in conversation any curious or singular fact—anything unusual or apparently anomalous, however trivial. His spirit seemed always to withdraw into its own recesses and to be following the trail of some footprint too faint for others to observe, and too slight even for himself to follow to any conclusion. Then it would return from its excursion, breaking into smiles, radiant with the hope that an explanation would come at last."

We must pass over the Duke's admirable efforts for the improvement of his estates, to which in the course of fifty years he devoted over half a million sterling, all, as he records with legitimate pride, paid out of income. As a politician he inherited a strong dislike of the Whigs, and developed sympathy for the commercial policy of Peel, together with a personal admiration of the Duke of Wellington which became something very like hero-worship. The splendid blue eyes, minutely described, distracted attention, it appears, from the beaky nose and the small and firm mouth. Argyll's course was therefore fairly fixed when his father's death in 1847 gave him a seat in the House of Lords. He was at the same time taking pleasure in London society, and thus we glean an interesting detail or two about the breakfasts and dinners of the day. This was what occurred at the table of the venerable Thomas Grenville, the donor of a magnificent collection of books to the nation:—

"Dundas told us some story—very well—as he always did. But Rogers never could bear to see those around him listening to anyone but himself. He therefore slowly lifted his cadaverous face, and, with a most vicious expression, said: 'I have been waiting a long time till Dundas had ended. May I be allowed now to get in one word edgewise?' Dundas could not reply, of course, to such an antiquity as Rogers, and could only look, as he did, very much annoyed."

The Dundas in question was Sir David, a Scottish lawyer and lover of books. Hallam and Bishop Wilberforce, Sir

Charles Lyell and Sir Robert Inglis, are among the persons described by the Duke of Argyll, and we get a quaint anecdote of table-turning at Macaulay's, when the historian displayed unphilosophic alarm at the success of the experiment.

The Duke tells the story of the Aberdeen Ministry, which he joined as Lord Privy Seal, with some minuteness; but the reader cannot refrain from feeling that he is travelling, for the most part, over well-trodden ground. A vivid account is given, however, of Gladstone's exposition of his first Budget to the Cabinet—a three hours' discourse in a conversational tone, without a single slip or obscurity. "I look back upon it," writes the Duke, "as by far the most wonderful intellectual effort I have ever listened to from the lips of man." Very characteristic, too, was Palmerston's assurance to the Duke that he need not be in the least anxious about Sebastopol: "You know it is an axiom of military science that an invested fortress is sure to fall. It is a mere question of time." Palmerston was then seventy, and his questioner just thirty, but the Duke remembers that he felt himself the older man. His autobiography reasonably defends the Aberdeen Cabinet against the charge that it was a deeply divided body, a point made by Gladstone before him. Besides, when disputes did occur, they were rather personal than the outcome of political predispositions. The denunciation of that Government as a "coalition" is based, in short, upon exaggerated importance attached to correspondence which in many instances never came before the Cabinet. None the less was it so composed as to be incapable of conducting firm diplomacy; and posterity will hardly accept the Duke's complacent interrogation of Lord Aberdeen: "In all our long negotiations, lasting through ten months, can you put your finger on any one step to which you ought never to have assented, or any one step you ought to have taken and failed to take?"

The autobiography ends towards the winter of 1857, and the Dowager Duchess has brought her husband's life to its close in an agreeable narrative, copiously illustrated by correspondence and extracts from speeches. The former source exhibits the Duke as keeping a closer grip on affairs than might be gathered from his brilliant, but discursive oratory. Though he was inclined to be pragmatic, his advice made, on the whole, for moderation and wisdom, notably when he urged upon Russell that the Alabama should be detained if she touched at a colonial port. When the newly widowed Queen decided that she would never again join in the "frivolities of a Court," his reply, as communicated to Gladstone, was a model of tact:—

"I replied to her in a way to indicate that the love borne to her by her people is one so uncommon, and so valuable to them and for them, that a response to it, in some form or other, by allowing her people to see her and testify their feelings, would be some day one of her public duties. This was very guardedly expressed, but the drift was clear, and she sent me a message which showed that she liked being reminded of a

sympathy and affection of which the Prince was proud, and which she herself appreciates."

To come to later times, the Duke undoubtedly made a mistake in entering the Cabinet of 1880, for by that time he had got out of touch with his party, except when the "unspeakable Turk" was in question. And when he had parted company with Gladstone, he as certainly made heavy demands on the privileges of friendship by his lengthy comminatory epistles. Here is a passage in one of them:

"Your long fight with 'Beaconsfieldism' has, I think, thrown you into antagonism with many political conceptions and sympathies which once had a strong hold upon you. Yet they have certainly no less a share of value and of truth than they ever had, and perhaps they are more needed in face of the present chaos of opinion."

Yet the Duke gives us to understand that the idea of him as a delighter in controversy is a popular delusion!

The Dowager Duchess appends a chapter on the Duke's scientific pursuits—a chapter which is of some importance in its way, though it fails to place him in the position of being able to contend on equal terms with Darwin, Herbert Spencer, or Lord Kelvin. He had a keen eye for an exception, but he dealt loosely with scientific principles. Of his paintings it may be said that if they were not ducal, they would win recognition at most local schools of art; of his verse, that it was Wordsworthian, but generally commonplace. But his life was one of worthy dignity and beneficence, and when he was a young man its moral was pointed by Agassiz after an unexpected visit to Inveraray: "Happy the people whose aristocracy is occupied by such studies as I find here."

The Pageant of London. By Richard Davey. Illustrated by John Fulleylove, R.I. 2 vols. (Methuen & Co.)

"By seeing London," said Johnson, "I have seen as much of life as the world can show." Since Johnson's day the great city has developed in directions which were undreamt of by the moralist. A succession of writers, from James Peller Malcolm to Sir Walter Besant, have attempted to trace the ever-flowing stream of London life from its sources onwards, and to follow the twists and turnings of its course in the direction of social and political progress as well as material growth. Mr. Richard Davey, in the volumes before us, has endeavoured to attain this object by means of a number of illustrative scenes. His book, he says, in a sentence which is scarcely worthy of his literary reputation, "consists of a series of word-pictures of the principal events that have transpired in the Metropolis"; and it is called a "Pageant" in the widest acceptance of that word, as "meaning not only Coronations, Royal marriages, funerals, and other pompous shows and spectacles, but as signifying the unrolling, as in a sort of procession, of the story of the British Capital from the day when Julius Cæsar appeared on the

banks of the Thames, to that which witnessed the funeral of Queen Victoria."

It is obvious that a work constructed on these principles has its limitations. Of the moral, intellectual, and religious sides of London life, which in Johnson's view constituted the most distinctive features of the great city, no adequate portrayal is presented to the reader; nor can room be found for an analysis of that deeper and more mysterious quality in the "urbanity" of London which drove away the hypochondria of Lamb, and "fed his humour, until tears wetted his cheek for unutterable sympathies with the multitudinous moving picture." Nor has Mr. Davey attempted to deal with various questions which appeal to the London student, such as the influence exercised by the metropolis over the rest of the kingdom; the relations between the City and the suburbs that surround it; the causes of the mutability of political opinion which is distinctive of the capital city of the Empire; and many others which will readily suggest themselves to those who take more than a superficial interest in the development of London life. But the reader whose tastes lie in the direction of the more romantic and pictorial side of history will find in Mr. Davey's book, if not an entirely trustworthy guide, at all events a very readable and companionable one.

In the collection of facts Mr. Davey claims to have derived his information from original sources, partly through the medium of books, either ancient or modern, and partly direct from contemporary documents. As he has refrained from giving his authorities, it is difficult to test the accuracy of his text; but the broader statements of fact seem to us to be generally correct, though there is an unfortunate crop of errors in points of detail. Some of the most interesting chapters in his book are those that deal with the reigns of the Tudors. At no period of English history was the "pageantry" which is the key-note of the book displayed on a more extravagant scale, nor were the tragedies which formed a commonplace of London life ever more frequently exhibited. The axe and the gallows occupy a perhaps not disproportionate space amongst Mr. Davey's word-pictures. One of the best-written chapters in the book is that which describes the ill-fated career of Anne Boleyn. But whilst dwelling at some length on pageants and crimes that had no direct relation to London life, Mr. Davey has laid no stress on the fact that Henry VIII. placed the citizens of the capital under an everlasting obligation by his judicious exchanges of land with the Abbey of Westminster. Though intended in the first instance to subserve his own selfish purposes, the acquisition by the king of the land on which the parks of Hyde and St. James were afterwards laid out was a meritorious deed which should be held in some measure to atone for the many acts of cruelty and jealousy which stained his reign.

The topographical chapters, though brightly written, are disfigured by errors

of fact. Two will suffice as examples. Mr. Davey, writing of 'The Riverside Palaces' (i. 333), notes that "the existence of three Suffolk Houses has given rise to a good deal of confused misstatement." His explanation unfortunately makes confusion worse. After referring to the death of the widow of Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk, the father of Lady Jane Grey, Mr. Davey writes:—

"The Grey estates passed to a nephew of the late Duke of Suffolk, Lord Grey of Porgo [*sic*], whose son became Earl of Suffolk, and built himself a house in the Haymarket, on the site of which now stand the Suffolk Street Galleries and Suffolk Street and Place."

The title of Lord Grey of Porgo never had any existence, nor was any member of the Grey family created Earl of Suffolk. The nephew of the Duke of Suffolk, a son of John Grey of Pirgo, was created Lord Grey of Groby in 1603, and his son was advanced to the Earldom of Stamford in 1628. None of the family had any connexion with Suffolk Street, Haymarket.

On the following page Mr. Davey writes:

"Some twenty years later Montagu House, as it was then called, came into the hands of William Parker, Lord Morley, who was raised to the peerage by Elizabeth as Viscount Mounteagle."

This should read: "Montagu House came into the hands of William Parker, eldest son of Lord Morley, who was summoned to Parliament in 1605 as Baron Monteagle." Errors of this kind, which might have been avoided by consulting an ordinary peerage, occur on nearly every page.

In addition to misstatements of fact, there are a large number of misprints, which seriously detract from the value of the book. An interesting account is given of the career of Perkin Warbeck, in which the name of the Earl of Warwick is given as George instead of Edward, and the execution of Warbeck is antedated by a year. The widow of Warbeck married successively not two, but three, husbands. To pass to more modern times, it may be stated that the execution of the Mannings, who twice figure in Mr. Davey's pages (ii. 193, 575), took place not in 1852, but in 1849. The assertion in the Preface that Brutus "founded Troam Novum or Trinovatum" needs correction. London Stone was certainly not "converted into a millennium," nor, without a lapse of grammar, could it ever have been a "Milliary Auream" (i. 29). In the list of names of celebrities who are commemorated in Westminster Abbey we have noticed that five are wrongly spelt on one page alone (ii. 435).

In a work intended for the general reader rather than the serious student it may perhaps seem ungracious to dwell on imperfections which a very little care would remove. It is a pleasanter task to dwell on the merits of a book which is replete with information, presented with a considerable amount of literary skill. Its value is enhanced by Mr. Fulleylove's charming illustrations, which depict many of the historic buildings of London, seen

chiefly under the warm glow of a summer sunset. But even in these plates we should prefer to see the name of Staple Inn properly spelt; while the illustration labelled as 'Lincoln's Inn Fields' does not represent that area, but depicts Old Buildings, in the interior of the Inn. The index deserves a word of praise, although the name of Lamb is absent.

Augustus Austen Leigh, Provost of King's College, Cambridge: a Record of College Reform. Edited by William Austen Leigh. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

It is a privilege to have been allowed to read this book. There are full-dress biographies of public men whose names at the time of their death are in the mouths of every one. There are privately printed monographs, generally by one of the family, and often as deficient in public interest as they are in literary skill. Thirdly, there are the lives of men of supreme intellectual distinction, who by mere accident, in the familiar words, "have no memorial." The life which stands outside these divisions lays, by the very fact, a claim upon our attention, of a peculiar character. Had the volume now before us not been written, the world would have been spiritually the poorer. Of how many books published nowadays can this be justly said? "Excellence in him was unvarying, and seemed to be instinctive," is said of Austen Leigh as a boy. "I never met with a more modest, gentlemanlike young man," wrote Lord Cowley, then British Ambassador at Paris. Mr. F. A. Bosanquet calls him "the most lovable of men." Mr. Heitland, who worked under him, says of him that he was always kind, always firm, always prompt, and always just, and emphasizes his unaffected nobility. The late E. W. Howson sums up his life in three words: modesty, refinement, and unselfishness. Dr. Prothero, as his colleague, must, of course, have known him almost better than any one in his time, but his deeply reasoned eulogy is too long to quote. Henry Sidgwick cited him as Aristotle's equitable man. Such overwhelming testimonies—and we have cited but mere scraps from a tithe of those here delivered by distinguished men of the present time—would alone arrest the attention and direct it towards Austen Leigh's personality. Yet Austen Leigh's character is but one part of this remarkable book.

The history of the development of King's College, Cambridge, is now well known. The late Provost himself contributed a historical statement upon the subject to the public in his *College History*; but, as is here pointed out, a large part of it could not be told by him. The real greatness of Austen Leigh, it has been said, lay in the fact that he reformed the College, or assisted in its reform, so quietly, and with such discretion, that no one found out that any great reform was being effected. A few might grumble, a single person like

Mr. Bendyshe might obstruct; but slowly the work was carried out, and from a position which has furnished a Cambridge historian with one of the bitterest invectives, King's has arisen to all but the first position in the University. This was the work accomplished during the hegemony, and by the activity, of Augustus Austen Leigh. The original statutory number of King's College was 70, all told. This was still preserved in 1867. By 1888 there were 29 resident Fellows and 94 undergraduates. In 1904 there were 35 resident Fellows and 146 undergraduates. All this was accomplished in spite of that agricultural depression which has visited King Henry VI.'s foundation more severely, perhaps, than any other college. It may be contended that growing like a tree is no sign of intellectual strength. Austen Leigh was wise enough to perceive, as is here pointed out, that a college to be efficient must be of a certain size. There is no room for small college manners now left in Cambridge. Lord Chesterfield's eulogy of Trinity Hall is out of date. No one who knows King's College at the present time could wish it smaller; and the Kingsman of to-day reaps the reward of Austen Leigh's labours.

Of Austen Leigh's position as a scholar we need not say much. His record, as Eton schoolboy, undergraduate, and tutor, is before the world. Never a great scholar in a wide sense, he yet was typical of the best Eton product. If he was not deep, he was thorough, and on this point Prof. Henry Jackson's definite statement may be taken as a final testimony. So, too, we may be allowed to take for granted the universal tribute to his University work. What he did, throughout his life, he did excellently.

There is another side of the picture which will strike all who know the Cambridge of to-day in reading this memoir. It is but a few months since another, and in many ways a more remarkable, memoir was given to the world. Henry Sidgwick lived his life and fought his battle in the same University, during the very same years, as Austen Leigh. Yet any one reading the two books might almost be forgiven for thinking that the two men lived, if not whole centuries apart, at least geographically distant. They were walking the same streets, breathing the same air, living the same life. There is not a single allusion to the Provost in the life of Sidgwick; there is only a passing reference, already quoted, in the more recent book. Austen Leigh's life equally leaves Sidgwick alone. So distinct are these two men. Such is Cambridge life, and perhaps all university life, at the present day. Such, we are almost tempted to observe, are Trinity and King's! The remark is only half true, and by some would be stigmatized as grossly untrue. But it represents a fact, and King's with its chapel services, its wonderful architecture, its peculiar personal charm, such as men still living knew it in the nineteenth century must be for ever identified with Augustus Austen Leigh.

We have no space here to speak of the

late Provost's singular gift as a preacher—a gift rarely exerted; nor of his lifelong devotion to cricket (an amusing, and almost incredible, true story occurs on p. 46 of a match between King's choristers and Trinity choirboys); nor of his fondness for music. The book throughout has its quiet strain of humour, the best hit being perhaps Mr. Bosanquet's account of the bedmaker's "Mr. Leigh" and "Mrs. Austen's Mr. Leigh." There are new side lights, too, thrown in these pages on another great Kingsman, Henry Bradshaw. It is a book which no Kingsman can afford to neglect, which every Cambridge man should know, and which may be committed as a precious legacy to the coming century.

Personal Forces in Modern Literature.
By Arthur Rickett. (Dent & Co.)

MR. RICKETT disclaims for these papers, originally delivered as lectures, a critical character. They "are not intended as contributions to critical literature." Literature is treated by them as "temperament expressed in terms of art," and his aim is to deal with the selected writers as personal forces energizing through literature. He has therefore chosen examples of Moralists, Men of Science, Poet, Novelist, and Vagabond—or, as we should say, the literary Bohemian, typified by Hazlitt and De Quincey, the writer who claims interest for his personality. Mr. Rickett appends an outline of reading for students, including a selected bibliography of the writers handled and the books concerning them.

It is a good and somewhat original conception; and Mr. Rickett deprecates searching criticism of its execution by speaking of his "fugitive papers" and emphasizing their casual origin. Yet we must say that the scheme might have been more distinctively and convincingly carried out. Sometimes the "personal equation" (as he styles it) is well marked—notably in the case of Newman and Huxley. But as a whole these papers are very much like ordinary critical disquisitions, so that few would discern any distinctive intention. Even with the foreknowledge afforded by the preface, that intention mostly needs looking for: it allows itself easily to be forgotten as we read. And even where there is a certain ostentation of system, we find ourselves at the close with but a vague and confused idea of what the author's remarks amount to—with a difficulty of summarizing the view laid before us. It reads, after all, not only like literary appreciation, but also like somewhat desultory and cursive appreciation. As literary appreciation it is neither novel nor deep. Of course, we are not to estimate it as literary appreciation. But we can scarce avoid doing so when it is just like literary criticism.

One of Mr. Rickett's best points is an eminent fairness of mind and catholic sympathy with very diverse personalities. He can be sympathetic towards Newman

the upholder, and Huxley the iconoclast, of dogma. The paper on Huxley is, indeed, one of the best and most interesting in the book, and the most consistent with its standpoint of personality. It is in handling personality that the author shows to most advantage. The personal side of the paper on Wordsworth is the best. But this and that on Keats and Rossetti resolve themselves in fact, despite the author's intention, into a literary disquisition on modern poets, covering Shelley, Coleridge, Browning, Tennyson, and even Arnold, with the three poets named as a centre; and one is conscious of a thinness of surface from the critical side, which is the uppermost aspect. Even in the personal valuation there are questionable points. We are not sure that the hardnesses of Wordsworth's character are effectively extenuated by his patient charity towards the irreclaimable frailty of Hartley Coleridge. Was it not a remorseful reparation, all too late, for his unbending impatience with the irreclaimable frailty of Hartley's father? When "every mortal power of Coleridge was frozen at its marvellous source," he was prompt in pathetic regret for "the rapt one of the godlike forehead, the heaven-eyed creature." But no tender memory of their early days softened the outraged majesty of Wordsworth when his old friend and inspirer besought, broken-hearted, renewal of their sundered amity. A slovenly opium-eater, become a heavy nuisance to his friends, had dared to complain of the impeccable W. W.; for such a one there could be no forgiveness. To have yielded the son the forbearance refused to the father shows that the poet had felt his fault and was not stone, but can scarcely be entered as plea against the charge of egoistic rigidity. Like death-bed repentance, it may mitigate censure, but not refute the cause for censure.

But in the literary valuation what shall we say when Mr. Rickett, telling us that he is concerned not with the colouring, but "the draughtsmanship, the symmetry" of Keats's odes, quotes as examples a passage from the 'Ode to Autumn' wherein (as he says) "every word, every line, every suggestion, carries with it the autumnal atmosphere," and another in which is "one of Nature's moods seized upon and expressed unerringly in terms of art"? The quotations, in other words, are chosen and dwelt upon for their pictorial and emotional suggestion of natural effect—for qualities which might be included under "colouring," but most certainly have no relation to draughtsmanship and symmetry—that is, to structural perfection. We might give other examples. We might dispute his depreciation of certain Tennysonian passages to exalt by comparison Wordsworth; not that the former are equal to the Wordsworth poem, but we deny the reason alleged for their inferiority. One example will illustrate the occasional laxity and superficiality of Mr. Rickett's criticism; and we are disposed to feel more aggrieved by a light-hearted inaccuracy in his poetic quotations, to

which the printer has perhaps lent his reckless aid. "One ail for thee and me," instead of "wail"; "went by her like their flames," instead of "thin flames"—these savour the printer. But exasperating minor slips suggest unverified quotation; and is it the printer who has omitted an entire line in a passage from 'Christabel'? Despite shortcomings, however, Mr. Rickett's book is the agreeable work of a man of taste and many sympathies; while he himself hastens to deny that it is profound.

NEW NOVELS.

The Adventures of Alicia. By Katharine Tynan. (F. V. White & Co.)

THIS story of Mrs. Hinkson's is not unlike some of its predecessors. There are the usual ease of manner and the usual pleasant people and pleasant places, but one feels that the author is getting rather too much into a groove. This story is, if anything, slighter than the others, and more in the nature of a series of pictures of various households, Irish and English, introduced through the medium of one of the author's "nice" Irish girls, who is out in the world to gain a living. The cause of most of her difficulties and adventures is the fact of her possessing more than her fair share of beauty. Hence complications and some untowardness till she makes a satisfactory marriage with the only man she ever loved.

Queen of the Rushes. By Allen Raine. (Hutchinson & Co.)

CONSIDERED as a series of pictures representing Welsh landscape and Welsh people, this book has much charm and a certain quiet interest. As a story it fails by an excessive and inartistic introduction of the marvellous. Not only do the dumb speak, but the dead also are raised up; and in neither case are the circumstances such as to convince us of the necessity for the miracle. The author is perhaps at her best in dealing with the recent revival, towards which she maintains an attitude of discriminating sympathy. The characters give a general impression of being in harmony with their environment, but we are not sure that any of them would bear the test of minute inspection.

Count Bunker. By J. Storer Clouston. (Blackwood & Sons.)

ADMIRERS of that engaging narrative 'The Lunatic at Large' will extend a cordial welcome to this volume, which is described by its author as being "a bald yet veracious chronicle containing some further particulars" of the two principal characters in that story. It must be admitted that 'Count Bunker' partakes of the usual fate of sequels: it is not equal to its predecessor. But it is amusing; it has a good deal of that rollicking merriment which is generally associated with holiday reading. The fun may be rather

that of the pillow-fight, but it is fun and should be enjoyed by all who are in the vein which makes practical jokes amusing. The Bavarian Baron von Blitzenberg, with Count Bunker's assistance, impersonates a weedy youth who has just stepped into a Scotch peerage, and plays this part for the purpose of winning an American heiress whose dollars are urgently needed to support the Highland chieftain's state.

Phantasma. By A. C. Inchbold. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE writer takes a critical episode of Napoleon's career (at the time he was hard pressed in his Egyptian expedition, and was coming to the momentous decision, East or West, in his further aims) to introduce a love element and a spiritualistic motive into his story. Nazli, the daughter of Murad Bey, is a Mamlook Joan of Arc, and Napoleon's vision in the wilderness is at all points impressive. Nazli in her "astral body" makes one of the weird company on the ridge of El Murakha when the Druse necromancer is expounding the hero's fate. But it is Kléber, not his leader, who so nearly draws the Amazon away from her warlike purpose, and for whose sake she welcomes death. The characters, Egyptian and other, follow the record of the time, and are well defined. Incident and movement are not wanting, but in places the style becomes too turgid, while an occasional lapse into modern vernacular gives comic effect to sustained and sonorous narrative.

In the Shadow. By Henry C. Rowland. (Heinemann.)

THE comic negro and the pious negro are familiar to all readers of fiction, and it would not be easy to decide which is the more unreal. But Mr. Rowland has given us a study of the real negro, and a wonderfully powerful and convincing study it is. He has taken as his hero Count Dessalines, a rich Haytian, educated in England, and inspired with an ambition to regenerate his people by making himself Emperor of Hayti. The strength and the weakness of the man are depicted with admirable skill and restraint. Dessalines is intelligent, cultured, and passionately religious; but the traits of character inherited from generations of negroes render him utterly futile, and secure for him both contempt and pity. The author is evidently an American, and has made a careful study of the negro temperament, while his obvious sympathy with an unfortunate race does not render him any the less loyal to truth. 'In the Shadow' deserves to be widely read.

The Black Motor-Car. By Harris Burland. (Grant Richards.)

IF this were the author's first book, it would be a rather interesting production. As we believe it is not, we cannot find excuse for this opening paragraph:—

"Mrs. De'La Mothe sat alone in her pretty drawing-room in Kensington. A single standard lamp with a fluffy pink shade threw a rose-coloured light on her face. A book lay open on her knees, but it was evident that her thoughts were far away from its contents. She was twining her hands together nervously, and the jewelled rings flashed on her thin white fingers. Every now and then she looked at the little ormolu clock on the mantelpiece. Marie de la [sic] Mothe was a beautiful woman; there were those who thought her the most beautiful woman in the world."

There is much more in precisely the same transpontine vein, and it is headed 'The Temptress.' It is not an excerpt from one of Bret Harte's 'Condensed Novels,' but an author's deliberate choice of opening for his story; and a more striking example of the use of the *cliché* in thought and diction it would be hard to find. The author has deliberately drawn curtains across the windows of life, and peered into the well-thumbed book of the traditions of sensational fiction. But the volume contains indications of a gift for narrative, and some respectable powers of description; it is compact of energy and enthusiasm.

The Uphill Road. By E. C. Ruthven. (Chapman & Hall.)

WE have here another specimen of a class of fiction which seems to be continually on the increase, and which, alike in its merits and its defects, is especially characteristic of the present day. It shows considerable literary feeling, respectable powers of description, and some skill in character-drawing; yet, on the whole, it cannot be pronounced a success, partly because the central figure, a solitary woman of the modern introspective type, does not awaken sufficient interest to justify the elaborate analysis of her sensations, and partly because the story hinges upon a species of problem (the marriage of the hereditarily unfit) which in actual life never seems to be considered as of practical account by the persons chiefly concerned. A special word of praise is due to the humorous, but sympathetic presentation of the third-rate continental restaurant, with its Cockney landlady and its medley of strange customers.

Hasty Fruit. By Helen Wallace. (Elliot Stock.)

THE hills and glens of the Scottish Border, among which the author is evidently at home, and tropical, swampy, utterly uncivilized "New Gambia," are the contrasted scenes in which the main action of an exceptionally interesting love story is set. The book has already reached a second edition, and exhibits a decided advance in power and insight on the author's previous work. She dealt overmuch with religious matters in a previous novel, but here hardly a page is devoted to religion, though the reader feels, or ought to feel, a struggle between the opposed powers of godliness and worldliness taking place behind the stage. To

convey this is a notable feat in a work presenting the marriage of a beautiful heiress, used to social triumphs, with a Scot devoted to missionary work in a dangerous and unhealthy region. She is attracted by the strength and nobility of his character, he by her charm and the sympathy of her kindred, but ill-trained spirit. A judicious selection of the consequences of such an alliance is put before us, providing some excitement and plenty of wholesome entertainment.

A Veneered Scamp. By Jean Middlemass. (John Long.)

THIS story of crime and revenge does not stimulate overmuch, perhaps because the author and the matter are not quite suited, or because revenge in modern fiction seldom "comes off." The plot—for there is a plot of a kind—appears to turn on two problems: Who slew the Earl? Who kidnapped the lady? No one—not even the author—forgets with whom he has to do, and the titles of earl and countess are ever present. The avenger is the Countess herself. If, in the well-worn phrase of some novelists, she is not constantly "drawing herself to her full height," she does and says other things of the same sort. Her servants are her "people," and we read of a "breakfast apparatus" and kindred expressions.

The Newell Fortune. By Mansfield Brooks. (John Lane.)

THE author of 'The Newell Fortune' has chosen an effective, if not very original theme in the history of a young man who, discovering that the inheritance bequeathed him by his father has been acquired in the slave trade, devotes his life to making such atonement as is possible. Yet the hero's experiences, though they seem to be partly drawn from real life, and include such promising items as a suspected murder, a London gambling-hell, and a tussle with slave-drivers in Sierra Leone, have no great attractive power. To use the pleasing dialect of latter-day journalism, they "lack actuality," and the writer has much to learn in the art of telling a story.

The Cubs. By Shan F. Bullock. (Werner Laurie.)

MR. BULLOCK's purpose in writing 'The Cubs' has evidently been to give a truthful account of life in a large Irish school. His picture is vividly painted. If, however, we are to accept it as true, an Irish school must be nearly as unpleasant a place as Dotheboys Hall, and Irish schoolboys must be infinitely more objectionable than the worst of "Stalky's" fellow-pupils. The early pages of 'The Cubs' consist chiefly of descriptions of the tortures inflicted by the big boys on the small boys, and are decidedly unpleasant and rather tiresome. That the story will interest boys there is no doubt, but it will hardly, we think, greatly attract grown-up readers. Schoolboys are usually

represented either as tiresome little prig^s or offensive little brutes, and the genuine article seems to elude the artist. Mr. Bullock's hero is fairly true to life, but his other boys fail to impress us with a sense of their reality.

The Mantle of the Emperor. By Ladbroke Black and Robert Lynd. (Francis Griffith.)

THIS is an historical novel, and its hero is Napoleon III. The story deals with his youth from the time when, as a member of the Carbonari society, he took part in an attempt at revolution in the Papal States, until the day when he escaped in disguise from the prison of Ham. The story is supposed to be told by an Irish adventurer with a passionate devotion to Louis Napoleon, but the portrait of the hero gives us the impression that he was a poor creature, and we are at a loss to understand why the narrator was so fascinated by him. The book does not deserve much attention, either as history or romance, although the story of Louis Napoleon's share in the Italian insurrection is, in the main, faithfully told. The authors ought to have known that the "Marche" of Central Italy are not the "Marshes," and that the Carbonari addressed one another not as "comrades," but as "cousins."

HISTORICAL LITERATURE.

The Valerian Persecution: a Study of the Relations between Church and State in the Third Century A.D. By the Rev. Patrick J. Healy, D.D., of the Catholic University of America. (Constable & Co.)—In this valuable study Dr. Healy shows that he belongs to the small number of Roman Catholic students of ecclesiastical history who, like the Abbé Duchesne, are prepared to investigate historical evidence without theological bias, and possess the requisite training for scientific criticism. The persecution of Christianity in the middle of the third century, which he has chosen for his subject, forms the central stage in the struggle between the Empire and the Church, and both throws light upon the nature of the earlier and obscurer collisions of Christianity with the secular authorities, and helps us to understand the subsequent persecutions of Diocletian and Galerius. "The persecutions which took place in the reigns of Decius and Valerian," the author observes, "are the high-water mark of the antagonism between Christianity and the religious forms of pagan Rome. Each side seemed to have attained to a full realization of the fact that it contained in it qualities destructive of vital elements in the other, and that, notwithstanding the changes time had wrought, no lasting peace could be hoped for until one side or the other was completely eradicated."

In his survey of the religions of the Empire Dr. Healy exhibits fairness and objectivity, and, unlike the ordinary theologian, he seems able to place himself at the point of view of the Imperial government in its attitude to the Christians, and calmly to recognize the reasons for the exceptional treatment which they received.

In regard to the disputed question whether a law or laws proscribing Christianity existed before the time of Trajan, the author, in opposition to Mommsen and Prof. Ramsay, adopts the affirmative view, and holds that

there was an edict of an exterminatory character, containing the words *non licet esse Christianos*. This is inferred from the facts that Tertullian, Origen, Sulpicius Severus, and Lampridius all use the same expression, and that the decree by which Galerius terminated his persecution began with the words *denuo sint Christiani*. The similarity of language certainly points to a common source, and it is plausible to conjecture that this was the early edict, provided we are convinced that such an edict existed. But its existence, if probable, has not yet been proved.

In dealing with his special theme Dr. Healy has to make large use of the 'Historia Augusta' and of the 'Acta' of martyrs. His treatment of the 'Historia Augusta' cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. It is clear that he has not realized or faced the results of recent criticism as to the documents and speeches which occur in the lives of that collection. He assumes, for instance, without a hint that there can be two opinions on the subject, that the deprecatory speech which is placed in the mouth of Ballista by Trebellius Pollio is genuine: "Ballista, in a speech which has been preserved by one of his auditors, deprecated his fitness for the position." In regard to the hagiographical 'Acta' we cannot make this complaint. He holds with those scholars who consider the 'Acts of Montanus' and the 'Passion of Marianus and Jacobus' to be genuine; but he states the opposite opinion, and refers to the works of those who entertain it. But it would have been more satisfactory to the reader if in both these cases he had supplied a full summary of the arguments on both sides, instead of the brief and insufficient indications which he has given. It was incumbent on him to do more than cite the authority of scholars like Pio Franchi de' Cavalieri. Dr. Healy, of course, follows this scholar in rejecting the story that St. Laurence was roasted on a gridiron as a legend pure and simple, which possibly arose from an error in transcription (*assus est* for *passus est*).

We have praised the author's impartiality; but we may detect a certain prepossession in his account of the fate of the Emperor Valerian. The oldest pagan accounts say that he grew old in captivity and was treated as a slave in Persia. But Christian writers give graphic accounts of ignominious treatment. He "was loaded down with chains, and was led around at the stirrup of his captor, still robed in his royal purple and bearing the imperial insignia of his former greatness"; "whenever Shahpur mounted on horseback he placed his foot on the neck of his imperial slave." Dr. Healy's criticism is that the pagan writers intentionally suppressed these shameful details, and he gives credence to the Christians, on the ground that as the Emperor had been their oppressor, they had no motive not to speak the full truth. The argument is dangerous, for it furnishes the answer that they had a motive to speak more than the truth.

We wonder why Dr. Healy has chosen for this useful book a title which can only be described as colloquial. A work dealing with the persecution in Nero's reign would be entitled, not 'The Nero Persecution,' but 'The Neronian Persecution.' 'The Valerian Persecution' is particularly infelicitous, because it ought to imply a persecution by Valerius. We notice a slip on p. 112, "the imperial pepum"; and the Augustal Prefect of Egypt is twice (pp. 133, 152) erroneously called the "Proconsul."

The Age of Justinian and Theodora: a History of the Sixth Century A.D. By William Gordon Holmes. Vol. I. (Bell & Sons.)—This first volume of a work which

seems to be spaciouly planned contains a careful and vivid description of the topography of Constantinople, and a very readable, not to say "spicy," account of Byzantine society, in its graver as well as lighter aspects, from the fourth century to the sixth. The author's attitude is virtually that of Gibbon; he regards the Middle Ages as a period during which despotism and "Christian superstition" stifled every impulse of progress. His scholarship is good, his reading extensive; his judgment is sagacious and independent; he has most conscientiously, and with evident enjoyment, studied the original sources, and is generally, though not invariably, abreast of modern research. But in regard to the Byzantine Empire he still maintains the view (now generally discarded) of Gibbon and Voltaire:

"The history of the disintegrating and moribund Byzantine Empire has been explored by modern scholars with untiring assiduity; and the exposition of that debased political system will always reflect more credit on their brilliant researches than on the chequered annals of mankind."

The influence of Gibbon is manifest.

The following description, which is based on the evidence of John Chrysostom, may be quoted as an example of the interesting material which Mr. Holmes has collected and skilfully arranged:—

"Ladies, to attend public worship, bedeck themselves with all their jewels and finery, whence female thieves, mingling amongst them, often take the opportunity to reap their harvest. Men, in the most obvious manner, betray their admiration for the women placed within their range of vision. The general behaviour of the audience is more suggestive of a place of amusement than of a holy temple; chattering and laughter go on continually, especially among the females; and, as a popular preacher makes his points, dealing didactically or reprehensively with topics of the day, the whole congregation is from time to time agitated with polemical murmurs, shaken with laughter, or bursts into uproarious applause. Contiguous to each church is a small building called the Baptistry, for the performance of the ceremonial entailed on those who wish to be received among the Christian elect. The practice of the period is to subject the body to complete immersion in pure water, but separate chambers or times are set apart for the convenience of the two sexes. Here on certain occasions nude females of all ages and ranks descend by steps into the baptismal font, whilst the ecclesiastics coldly pronounce the formulas of the mystic rite, a triumph of superstition over concupiscence pretended more often perhaps than real."

To the word "superstition" in the last sentence a curious note is appended, exhibiting a naive and airy "cocksureness" which strikes the attention in other places where the writer touches on religion:—

"I had almost said *piety*, one of the words destined, with the extinction of the thing, to become obsolete in the future, or to be applied to some other mental conception."

This volume comes down to the marriage of Justinian. In discussing the pre-Imperial career of Theodora, Mr. Holmes shows that he is a competent master of the subject of the Greek and Roman *demi-monde*, and it is characteristic that his verdict as to the morals of the future Empress agrees with Gibbon's. Recent critics have not denied that she was a courtesan, but they have been disposed to take the notorious picture of her degradation in the undoubtedly genuine 'Secret History' of Procopius with many grains of salt. Mr. Holmes has no critical salt to infuse here. He accepts the account literally, and concludes that "on the scene, or at private reunions, she distinguished herself by her impudicity above any of her companions."

We may call attention to a misleading statement which seems to be original on the part of the author. He says (p. 19) that

"the Greeks did not call their city Constantinople till later centuries. Thus with Procopius, the chief writer of the sixth century, it is always still Byzantium." The argument is as unfortunate as the statement. Procopius called the city Byzantium because he wrote in a conventional literary style, and was consciously reminiscent of classical antiquity. His contemporary John Malalas, whose chronicle is written in the vulgar tongue, calls it Constantinople. The inhabitants, no doubt, then, as later, called it in ordinary conversation simply "the city."

Notes on the Earlier History of Barton-on-Humber. Vol. I. By Robert Brown, jun. (Elliot Stock.)—This book of 130 pages and many illustrations contains the history of Barton-on-Humber down to 1154 or "the end of the Norman period." Its chief value consists in the various illustrations of the famed Saxon church of St. Peter, with a reproduction of the conflicting opinion as to the age and use of the different parts of that fabric. Another point of much interest is the discussion as to the great Anglo-Saxon victory of Brunanburh. Mr. Brown adopts the theory of the late Bishop Trollope that this battle was fought at the southern extremity of the lordship of Barton-on-Humber. There is much to be said in favour of this supposition, but it is going a good deal too far to claim that the site has been certainly identified. The extraordinary diversity of opinion among scholars of repute with regard to the situation of this great struggle is not a little remarkable. The idea of the fight having taken place on the verge of the Humber is not consonant with the Saga version of the story, for the vanquished host is represented as being two days' journey from the sea. We have reason to believe that the claims of a Midland county as the site of the Brunanburh fight will before long be offered for the discussion of antiquaries and historians. We shall be surprised if these claims, when put forth, are not generally admitted to outweigh those of Barton.

The author proposes to continue his notice of this township during the period 1154-77 in a second volume.

The Manors of Suffolk: the Hundreds of Babergh and Blackbourn. By W. A. Copinger, LL.D. (Fisher Unwin.)—There have recently appeared in these columns several short notices of the five elaborate and carefully compiled index volumes, issued by Dr. Copinger in 1904-5, of the existing records of the various parishes in the large county of Suffolk. It is a pleasure to find the same author entering upon a more definite task with regard to the history of the same county—a task for which he is obviously well equipped. The present volume of manorial history deals with the two hundreds of Babergh and Blackbourn, which formed part of the great Liberty of St. Edmunds; it is of small folio size, and contains about 450 pages. The author tells us that it is to be regarded as "a kind of trial volume," for it is the first of six like volumes that are already complete in MS. on the manors of the whole county. If it "meets with acceptance" sufficient to pay the cost of printing, the remainder will at once be put in hand. The material in this "trial volume" is so thoroughly good of its kind, and so well arranged, that a sufficient number of subscribers ought speedily to be obtained.

Dr. Copinger admits, in his introductory note, that more might have been said respecting the manors, and particularly with regard to the manor houses; but as there are about 2,000 manors in the county, and the expediency of restricting the work to seven volumes seemed desirable, "little

more than dry facts" could be given. As to "dry facts," the reader of these pages will be agreeably surprised to find that they include a considerable variety of information which is at once interesting and entertaining, and at times not a little surprising. Some of these incidents gain not a little in piquancy from the dry way in which they are put on record. Two such statements, both of a semi-tragical character, may be cited as examples of Dr. Copinger's succinct method.

The first of these concerns the Cokes of Kettleburgh Hall. Richard Coke died in 1688, and his wife Elizabeth in 1716; they were both buried in the parish church of Livermere Parva:—

"They left, it appears, no issue, and the unfortunate Arundel Coke, barrister-at-law, who was executed in 1722 at Bury St. Edmunds, was heir to this estate. Arundel Coke was hanged at Bury in March, 1722, under the Coventry Act, for defacing his brother-in-law Edward Crispe of Bury, and his execution was by his own desire at 7 o'clock in the morning, to avoid the crowd of people. He was buried in the chancel of the church of Little Livermere the same day. A daughter of his was married to Mr. Godbold, father of the John Godbold of Bury who married Miss Delanoire Discipline. Mr. Crispe, the brother-in-law, survived the melancholy misfortune 24 years, dying 6 Sept., 1746, aged 74."

Dr. Copinger does not even allow himself space to say that the Coventry Act, imposing capital punishment on those who wilfully mutilated the human countenance by such an act as slitting the nose, was hurriedly passed by Parliament in their indignation against the Court bullies who inflicted this particular defacement on Sir John Coventry, M.P., in consequence of certain remarks he had made in the House about Charles II.

In the account of Little Haugh Manor, in Norton parish, which was held by that learned antiquary and recluse Dr. Cox Macro from 1737 to 1757, it is stated:—

"He had two children, a son and a daughter. The son was of a somewhat delicate constitution, but proceeded to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he had the privilege of having Bishop Hurd for his tutor. He died before his father, having gone abroad for the benefit of his health. Mr. Tyms refers to a tradition that the young man was murdered by his sister, who wanted to obtain the property, and that a skeleton was found in a box in the house and believed to be his; but having regard to the eccentric old father's character, one might almost feel surprise that more skeletons than one were not discovered. Mary, the daughter, inherited the property on her father's death, and it is related that she immediately applied to Mr. Green, the bookseller at Bury, to spare no expense in getting the announcement of her father's decease in every newspaper. This was with the object of the announcement falling under the notice of William Stainforth, of Sheffield, whose addresses her father would never countenance. The notices were successful, and the marriage took place."

There is, however, abundance of more solid material in these pages, of much value to the genealogical enthusiast or the topographical writer. From the Domesday entry (and such entries are unusually full in the Suffolk part of the great Survey), the descent of almost every manor is traced down to the present day. We notice a few cases in which some important links, which could have been recovered by search among the uncalendared rolls and documents of the Public Record Office, are missing; but complete accuracy and fullness cannot be achieved by any one man in a lifetime, however diligent, when dealing with 2,000 manors; such excellence is only to be obtained in some great co-operative work. Nor are the references to extant court rolls in places of public deposit quite so full as they might be. We do not notice, for instance, any

reference to court rolls *temp.* Richard II. of Newton Manor, which are at the Bodleian.

It will be a surprise to not a few to learn that the custom of Borough English—whereby the youngest son or daughter succeeds to the manor in cases of intestacy—which is fairly common in some of the Southern counties, especially in Sussex, still largely prevails in East Anglia. Dr. Copinger mentions its occurrence on the manor of Weston Market, and states that it is said to prevail in eighty manors in Suffolk.

Wiston Manor, in Babergh Hundred, on the verge of the county, was part of the Honor of Raleigh. A peculiar court was held by the lord of this honor yearly on King's Hill, Rochford, on Wednesday next after Michaelmas Day, at cockcrow, and was vulgarly known as Lawless Court. The steward and suitors carried on their business in whispers; no candle nor artificial light was permitted to brighten the gloom; nor was any pen or ink used, a piece of coal supplying their place. To quicken attendance at this exceptional hour, it was provided that any one owing suit or service, and failing to appear, was to forfeit to the lord double his rent for every hour that he was absent. It is supposed that this servile attendance was imposed on the tenants of the honor "for conspiring at the like unseasonable time to raise a commotion."

The accounts and illustrations of some of the more interesting of the old manor houses lend an additional value to the volume. One of the most remarkable of these is the little-known West Stow Hall, now used as a farm-house, where there is a large room with massive beams and panelling, as well as embattled pediments and other good remains of various dates. The brick gateway, *temp.* Henry VIII., is still connected with the house by a curious corridor of the like material. This manor was bequeathed by Dame Croftes in 1669 to Edward Progers, who had been a page to Charles I., and was groom of the chamber to Charles II., to whose pleasures he assiduously ministered. "The gay Progers" lived to a great age and had a strange end:—

"He died the 31 Dec., 1713, aged 92, of the anguish of cutting teeth, he having cut four more teeth and had several others ready to cut, which so inflamed his gums that he died."

A particularly commendable and novel feature of the plates in this volume is that the account of each hundred is preceded by excerpts of those parts of three early maps that pertain to the district, placed in juxtaposition on the same page. This is a happy arrangement for comparative purposes; the maps are those of Saxton (1576), Speed (1610), and Bowen (1777).

Mr. Hone's *The Manor and Manorial Records*, which appears in Messrs. Methuen's excellent series of "Antiquary's Books," forms a very suitable introduction for the beginner in the study of manorial court rolls, of which many are in private hands. Without aspiring to original inquiry into the vexed themes that surround the mediæval manor, the compiler has made use of many trustworthy authorities in constructing his general sketch of manorial history, and has enriched his collection by some useful appendices. The lists of court rolls in the custody of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and of the Land Revenue Office, now deposited at the Record Office, of the court rolls at the British Museum, at Lambeth Palace, and at the Bodleian, are derived from catalogues accessible only in MS. They form a valuable supplement to the printed list of the Record Office. Mr. Hone's list of manor courts with testamentary jurisdiction is the more important

as it goes to disprove the suggestion that this jurisdiction existed only as a relic of papal power. The bibliography is excellent, but we note the absence of reference to Prof. Maitland's paper on the 'Survival of Archaic Communities' in the *Law Quarterly Review*, ix. 214, which would have led to the correction of certain statements in Mr. Hone's text. Many of the plates are well chosen, but they are not in all cases assigned to a right date, and several are not from English sources. The latter half of the book contains translations of typical records. As the book is designed for the use of lords of the manor and others who have court rolls which they may desire to read, it is a pity that the facsimiles are of reduced size, and that no specimen transliterations are given (except a very short list of common abbreviations). The translations are not in all respects accurate, the familiar use of the "score," represented by xx over the number, being misunderstood. A man who had proved the whereabouts of a certain sheep is described as "accused of forfing 11d." We question whether "accused" represents the original; it seems to be a case in which "forfang," reward for the recovery of stolen property, was obtained. Prof. Vinogradoff's 'Growth of the Manor' gives a sounder explanation of the term "foreland" than that which is here supplied. Mr. Hone notes that a society of manorial stewards is in process of formation, one of the objects of which is to aid and encourage the preservation and study of manorial court rolls; but he hopes nevertheless that if the proposal to establish County Record Offices should be carried into effect, many lords may be induced to deposit therein their manorial records. He supplies an excellent index, containing the names of all the places of which the rolls are catalogued in his appendixes.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

FOR the fourth volume of 'The Times' *History of the War in South Africa* (Sampson Low & Co.) Mr. Basil Williams, rather than Mr. Amery, is chiefly responsible. He has had an ungrateful task, for the operations recorded were not of a nature to admit of interesting literary treatment. With the exception of the political and strategic conceptions discussed in the previous volumes, and such romantic episodes as were connected with the earlier part of the siege of Ladysmith and of the blockade of Mafeking, the war was as confused as were the marches and counter-marches of the French and Spaniards in the Peninsular campaign. A detailed history of the South African War must resemble a history of the Peninsular War without the great battles and without Badajos. The genius of Napier, triumphant in his account of Albuera and of the other storms and battles, failed to elevate the story of the long-drawn skirmishes of the Spaniards to the rank of history. The narrative is here brought from the occupation of Bloemfontein to the return of Lord Roberts to England and the general election; but there appear at the end additional chapters, on the close of the siege of Ladysmith and on the blockade of Kimberley and of Mafeking, which are curiously out of place, by reason of their postponement. Neither are we pleased with the description of the one Boer attempt to take Mafeking, which has been graphically described by several eye-witnesses in previous books reviewed by us.

The authors of the present volume have dealt fairly with the difficult episodes of

Sanna's Post and Lindley. They have done justice to Plumer for his operations in the North-East. They have criticized with vigour the extraordinary weakness of the Headquarters Staff. We have on several occasions taken the surrender of the Lincolns and of a part of the Scots Greys at Zilikats Nek as an exemplification of the difficulties which attend the attempt to allot blame for the failures of the British army in South Africa. The facts come out even worse in the present volume than in any previous examination of them. It is impossible to resist the conclusion that, although the two colonels may have been rightly censured and removed, the responsibility of the Headquarters Staff was great. While (as Mr. Basil Williams states) in the case of Sanna's Post "no proper inquiry was ever made into the circumstances," in the case of Zilikats Nek two inquiries were held, and both were thoroughly unsatisfactory. The authors point out in many passages contained in different chapters, we believe from different hands, that Lord Kitchener was only a "nominal Chief of the Staff," and that he was generally sent away from headquarters to deal with urgent details at distant spots. "There was no one to take his place.... Circumstances often resulted." It is shown that

"even the Boers, with their rudimentary staff arrangements, provided full and constant information for their own commanders.....The British generals from first to last were often ignorant of what the column nearest them was doing."

Orders were seldom clear, and were often

"transmitted through any secretary.....or even aide-de-camp who happened to be present. Then Lord Kitchener, in ignorance of what had been done, would sometimes, as Chief of the Staff, transmit other orders."

It frequently occurred that orders of a contradictory nature were given to the troops, and no arrangement whatever made for transport. Two great disasters to the military train, both of which had far-reaching consequences, were the direct result of bad staff work. Over and over again we read in the present volume such words as these: "Thus the ultimate blame of the disaster must be laid on the Headquarters Staff." It was not the fault of the officers, who were most of them good, and some of them brilliant; but of the total absence of system and of training in staff duties which has long prevailed, and still continues, in the British army.

The farm-burning policy is severely condemned in the present volume as hopelessly unfitted to the circumstances, and as based on experience of results in dealing with savage peoples, when all who knew South Africa were aware that the result likely to be produced upon the Dutch was the opposite to that intended. In the account of the blockade of Kimberley the singular nervousness of the civilian population is displayed in more detail than has hitherto been made public. The authors seem to have had at their command other telegrams besides the strange ones which have already seen the light, and, under the heading "Excited telegrams to Sir A. Milner," they give an account including "a whole batch of hysterical telegrams in a single day."

We do not know what Col. Henderson would have made of his official history of the Boer War; but we do not envy the War Office the task of trying to improve upon the venture of *The Times* and Mr. Amery.

MR. LIONEL DECLE publishes through Mr. Eveleigh Nash *The New Russia*. The appendix on political parties in Russia, their principles and their newspapers, is of interest. We are less pleased with the

contents of the book itself, although we are disposed to agree in the general view taken by the author. He, like *The Athenæum*, is sceptical as to constitutional reform in Russia. He points out the many pieces of evidence which go to show that the great change which some find in Russia is not yet certain. The peasantry have been aroused by the land question, which can be used by the supporters of autocracy better than by those of constitutional reform; while the mob has been excited in the Emperor's name, according to the time-honoured custom of the country. The author perhaps contradicts himself by assenting to a statement by the police of the impossibility of arresting the leader of the Moscow revolution, on account of the absence on his part of an actual legal offence, while on several later pages he points out that any one can be put to death, or thrown into perpetual prison, or sent into exile, by "administrative order." The police themselves, on p. 193, explain to the author that they are in the habit of sending to Siberia persons who refrain from revealing their exact identity. There is additional proof given in the present volume of the payment of money by the police to revolutionary leaders in cases other than those made known in the Gapon revelations. We find in the volume a few misprints in Russian names, which show a certain carelessness, and some foreign idioms, such as the use of the verb "to control" in the sense of checking evidence, and the phrase "a well-nourished fire," for a steady fire of musketry.

MR. FREDERICK MOORE in *The Balkan Trail*, published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., triumphs by his admirable illustrations from photographs, but as regards his letterpress suffers by comparison with Miss Durham and other recent writers upon the same districts. The pictures are of remarkable interest. We have not seen any which bring the Balkan types so well before the reader. The Servian officers and men, the lady of one of the Bulgarian bands, the Turkish and Bulgarian sentries at the frontier standing side by side in amicable watchfulness, the Bulgarian infantry on the march, are perfect examples of racial type. The Albanians are, as usual, a failure, but it is, perhaps, almost impossible to show how singular a blend of races goes to make up the varied types of this interesting people. The Greek who figures for his race is distinctly libellous. There are magnificent Albanian types in modern Greece, and there are also purely Hellenic types, less noble, but exactly resembling the earliest pictures of the Greek race from Crete. The author explains that "Bashi-Bazouk" merely means civilian, as contrasted with soldier; and those represented bear out the reassuring view of a popular levy which has been given, in a moral sense, "a bad name." But the old gentleman who appears to be in command damages his friends, and might easily be imagined to be willing to set them on to commit deeds for which otherwise they would not make themselves responsible. Bulgaria needs no better advertisement than the photograph facing p. 48 of the magnificent men who march at the head of a battalion.

In a volume entitled *A Modern Slavery* (Harper & Brothers), Mr. Henry W. Nevins has brought together, with some additions, a series of striking articles which lately appeared in *Harper's Monthly Magazine*, relating his experiences during a visit to Angola and the islands of San Thomé and Principe, from which he returned last winter. Written with a simplicity and earnestness that bespeak confidence in

the accuracy of its statements, the book is an important contribution to the efforts now being made by many zealous men to procure the removal of evils that have grown up under European misrule in Central Africa. The humane intentions of the Powers represented at the Berlin and Brussels Conferences twenty-two and sixteen years ago respectively have been conspicuously violated in the case of the Congo State, but France, Germany, Italy, and our own country have not been free from blame; and, if the Portuguese as a nation have troubled themselves too little about their African possessions for many new abuses to have arisen, the same carelessness is responsible for their toleration of old ones. Consular reports and the official testimony of writers like Col. Colin Harding have recently informed the heedless public that the wholesale traffic in slaves bought or captured near the sources of the Zambezi and Kasai, for disposal in Angola on the West Coast, which had existed for generations before Livingstone and other travellers denounced it, and was supposed to have died out, is still carried on, and under conditions in some respects more pernicious than heretofore.

Mr. Nevins went out recently to see for himself and on behalf of others sharing his detestation of slavery. Illness and delays incident to it prevented his going more than about 500 miles into the interior, and perhaps it would have been impossible for him in less than two or three years to trace the slave supply to its principal roots in the southern portions of the Congo State, as well as in the north-western portions of Barotseland. But he had ample and appalling experience of the doings of the half-caste traders, calling themselves Portuguese, who, loading their caravans with cheap rifles and ammunition, rum, cloths, tools, and baubles, in the Bihe district and nearer to Loanda and the ports on the coast, travel eastward till they have bartered those wares for human chattels. Besides the raided captives brought down to meet the traders from regions further inland, large numbers are bought or stolen by the traders themselves in their passage, mainly in that part of the Barotse country to which the British South Africa Company laid claim before, by the King of Italy's arbitration, it was awarded last July to Portugal, which thus retains the direct responsibility that would otherwise have devolved on Great Britain of suppressing the traffic. But, as our Government is being reminded, treaty obligations entered into by Portugal give Great Britain the right to insist on a stop being put to the mischief. How monstrous that mischief is Mr. Nevins shows very forcibly. It brings infinitely more harm to the natives than any good they can derive from the ministrations of the few missionaries, Catholic and Protestant, among them; and it converts the feeble machinery of administration set up by the Portuguese Government into an organization for assisting the slave traders in their lawless work. When the coast is reached by the slaves—or rather by the small proportion of them left after the terrible journey through "the hungry country" has been made—the Government officials have a more open and legalized share of the traffic in superintending the "ransom" of the survivors by other traders or their agents, who take them over as "servicemen." Thereupon the victims are for the most part, under five years' contracts, either distributed in the rum plantations on the mainland or consigned to the cocoa plantations on the Portuguese islands of San Thomé and Principe, the most attractive

of the women being reserved for harem uses.

Parts of Mr. Nevinson's book, especially those describing the sufferings of the slaves during their conveyance to market, and afterwards in the plantation life in Angola or on the islands from which not one of them has been known to return, are too painful for quotation. But his volume deserves careful reading by all who can help in bringing to an end the abominations it pathetically describes, and it ought to be of considerable service in furthering that object. Incidentally it supplies much welcome information about the general conditions of life in this part of Africa. Mr. Nevinson has a graphic style and a pungent humour, and the camera he took with him has enabled the volume to be appropriately illustrated.

UNDER the title *Rois sans Couronne*, Baron Marc de Villiers du Terrage collects some scraps from the lives of a number of odd people. His volume, which is published by Perrin & Cie., groups, among others, Cortes, Pizarro, the Kings of Yvetot, the French soldiers of fortune in India, Adams the mutineer of the Bounty, Robert Owen, Cabot the founder of Icarie, Rajah Brooke, Brigham Young, Walker the filibuster, and Yakoub Bey, the ruler of Eastern Turkestan. No one of the biographies is wholly satisfactory, but general readers may be amused by many of them. The author is not always on solid ground. In a final chapter he suggests, to those who may be bitten by the example of the Emperor of the Sahara, certain parts of the world's surface to which he thinks their energies may be turned. Tristan da Cunha may bring them into conflict with our Board of Admiralty. New Guinea is not, as the author thinks, incompletely divided between the Dutch, the Germans, and ourselves; but the whole island is the subject of treaty and occupation. It is not the case, as is stated here, that the inhabitants of Pitcairn Island are forgotten; on the contrary, there has been a recent revival of interest which has led to a considerable collection on their behalf, and to more frequent visits. Moreover, during the period which he passes over a line of mail steamers made periodical calls at Pitcairn, afterwards interrupted by a change of route. The account of the Mormons is accurate in the earlier parts, which have been taken from other books, but ceases to be correct as regards the most recent period. We doubt whether it is the case that in 1883 the British Government set up an exclusive claim to the Ecérhous, though we do not quarrel with the statement of our author upon what has always been a highly disputable point. Happily the sovereignty of these rocks, which are not always safe against breakers in a great gale, is unimportant, in spite of their close neighbourhood to Jersey. The French have claimed the Ecérhous, and our Government has disputed the claim: that, we think, is all that can be said.

THERE is not much to be said, from the scholar's point of view, about the revised and enlarged edition of *History for Ready Reference and Topical Reading*, by J. N. Larned, which extends to six volumes, and is sent to us by Mr. Heinemann. Quotations from authors in their own words are given at length, and references are added to other sources of history. The compiler has made generally, in the subjects we have examined, an excellent choice of authorities, and he has gone as far to achieve the end in view with such quotations as any man could go. That many excellent historians are verbose, prejudiced, and even unintelligible

when doled out in small pieces cannot be explained on every other page, and such criticisms are probably not contemplated from the class of "topical writers." We do not think much of the "Logical Outlines" of various countries printed across two pages, in which the dominant conditions and influences are distinguished by inks of different colours; but the historical maps by Mr. Alan C. Reiley are of real use for ready reference, and may help to clear up the confusions to which history is subject, especially history in this form. The volumes are admirably bound in good, firm style, and cover a vast field of information, being printed in double columns of small close type. Numerous cross-references will aid the reader in finding his way about, but if he is a genuine student, he will be often irritated, if not perplexed, by the brevity of the information afforded. Mr. Larned, with his ample experience of journalism and library work, must know that he has set out to achieve the impossible.

MR. JOHN MURRAY publishes—for the Railway Companies' Association, we believe—another volume by Mr. Edwin Pratt in defence of railways and their rates. The title of the small book, which has some special interest at the moment, is *British Canals: is their Resuscitation Practicable?* There is some historical value in Mr. Pratt's new researches. He brings out with much ability the proofs that the intolerable monopoly of the canal owners and their high rates were the cause of the sudden development of railways on a vast scale by traders' associations. Incidentally we have a good deal of reference to the views of the canal proprietors as to the impossibility of serious railway competition. An article in *The Quarterly Review* condemned

"the idea of a general rail-road as altogether impracticable.....As to those persons who speculate on making rail-ways general throughout the kingdom,.....we deem them and their visionary schemes unworthy of notice."

The scientific and commercial questions now at issue are not in the way of *The Athenæum*. Mr. Pratt triumphantly maintains that the only good canals now working are those which belong to the railways. He explains why in foreign countries canal traffic is much more developed and railway rates are far lower than is the case with us. The railway companies in his volume turn the tables on those who attack them for high rates by denouncing the "extortion of the land-owners." Whatever may be the cause, there can be little doubt about the facts. Mr. Pratt explains the possibility of through communication across Germany from sea to sea by the absence of continuous hills and the presence of great rivers, and no doubt the same explanation may be given of the facility with which merchandise passes by water from the Baltic to the Caspian; but this simple explanation will not suffice to explain the presence at one time of 200 laden barges at a French inland town like Toul, nor the fact that between Pontoise and Creil, where there are excellent railway lines running through the best quarries and on both sides of the Oise, the stone for Paris is fetched and conveyed by water rather than by rail, though both are used. On the other hand, Mr. Pratt demonstrates, by what would at first sight seem to be proof, that it is impossible in the case of Bath and of the Avon for water carriage to compete with the railway, which also owns the canal.

An Illustrated Guide to Saffron Walden, its History and Antiquities. By Guy Maynard. (Saffron Walden, Hart & Son.)—Mr. Maynard, the Curator of the Saffron

Walden Museum, gives in this booklet an interesting account of the ancient town and its magnificent Perpendicular church, erected between 1425 and 1547. The church is 200 feet long by 82 feet wide; the tower is 85 feet high, and the weathercock 193 feet from the ground. The carved timber roof is carried by a lofty arcade of great beauty and singular lightness. The museum has an extensive zoological collection; also pottery, porcelain, Old English glass, MSS. and early printed books. Six miles east of the town is the very fine group of burial mounds known as the Bartlow Hills, the highest being 43 feet. The Guide contains some excellent illustrations, including the church, museum, market-place, and castle.

THE third and fourth volumes of Messrs. Macmillan's excellent "Pocket Tennyson," *Ballads and Poems* and *Idylls of the King*, are now out.

French Abbreviations, by Edward Latham (Effingham Wilson), is a very useful little manual, covering a wide range of commercial and financial as well as general usages. The Preface is valuable, too.

WE are glad to notice that the same compiler's *Famous Sayings and their Authors* (Sonnenschein) has reached a second edition. It is much increased in value as a book of reference by the addition of a good 'Index of Subjects,' which we suggested when we reviewed the first edition in 1904. The text seems to be unchanged, and still ignores some famous academic wit. The German portion needs revision here and there, e.g., in the sentence on p. 241 concerning the Armada there is a strange mistranslation of a verb, which the general sense might have made clear.

A NEW edition of Miss Alcott's *Eight Cousins* (Sampson Low), with pictures by Miss H. R. Richards, should win wide favour, for the illustrator has done well and the general get-up of the book is good.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL are supplying some excellent holiday reading at sixpence, including the following novels: *The Apple of Eden*, *Jemima*, and *Our Friend the Charlatan*, which are typical of various modern movements and ideas.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Addis (W. E.), *Hebrew Religion to the Establishment of Judaism under Ezra*, 5/
Harvest Sermons, 2/ net.
Herklots (Rev. E.), *Revelatio Dei, or the Eternal Revelation of the Triune God*, 2/6 net.
Hiller (H. C.), *Meta-Christian Catechism*, Enlarged Edition, 1/
Inge (W. R.), *Truth and Falsehood in Religion*, 3/6 net.
Jowett (B.), *Theological Essays*, edited by L. Campbell, 2/6 net.
Religion and Theology of Unitarians, 2/ net.
Review of Theology and Philosophy, edited by Prof. A. Menzies, Vol. I., 14/ net.
Robinson (Father P.), *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*, 1dol.
Ropes (J. H.), *The Apostolic Age in the Light of Modern Criticism*, 6/ net.
Wright (C. H. H.), *Daniel and its Critics*, 7/6

Law.

- Fry (Sir E.), *The Rights of Neutrals as illustrated by Recent Events*, 1/ net.
MacMahon (J. B. B.), *The Law of Licensing*, 5/ net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Clouston (R. S.), *English Furniture and Furniture Makers of the Eighteenth Century*, 10/6 net.
Foster (W.), *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Paintings, Statues, &c. in the India Office*, Third Edition.
Hardie (M.), *English Coloured Books*, 25/ net.
Jackson (T. G.), *Reason in Architecture*, 10/6 net.
Pike (O. G.), *Birdland Pictures*, 3/6 net.
Rembrandt, Part VIII., 2/6 net.

Poetry and the Drama.

- Bowles (F. G.), *The Tent by the Lake*, 1/ net.
Drinkwater (J.), *The Death of Leander, and other Poems*, 2/6 net.
Fitch (C.), *The Stubbornness of Geraldine*, 3/ net.
Mackay (A. D.), *Song of the London Man, and other Poems*, 5/ net.

Porter (F.), *Blossom and Fragrance*.
 Rea (T.), *Schiller's Dramas and Poems in England*, 3/6 net.
 Richardson (R.), *Cramer, Primate of All England*, 5/ net.
 Shakespeare, *Dramatic Works*, India-Paper Edition, 2/ net;
 King John; Julius Caesar, 1/6 net each.
 Shaw (G. B.), *The Devil's Disciple*; *Widowers' Houses*; *You Never Can Tell*, 2/ net each.
 Summoning of Everyman, edited by J. S. Farmer, sewed, 1/6 net.
 Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*, Pocket Edition, 2/ net.
 Thicketon (A. E.), *Notable Critique* (44-62), 1/ net.
 Walker (Rev. R. J.), *The Mystical Pair*, and other Poems, 3/6 net.

Bibliography.

Bulletin of the John Rylands Library, Manchester, Vol. I. No. 4, 1/ net.
 Cambridge University Library, Report for 1905.
 Connoisseur (The), *Complete Index to the First Twelve Volumes*, 20/ net.
 Currier (T. F.) and Gay (E. L.), *Catalogue of the Molière Collection in Harvard College Library*.

Philosophy.

Jones (W. H. S.), *The Moral Standpoint of Euripides*, 2/6 net.
 Laurie (S. S.), *Synthetic, being Meditations Epistemological and Ontological*, 2 vols. 21/ net.
 Tucker (C. C.), *On the Doctrine of Personal Identity*, 1/6 net.

Political Economy.

Abbott (L.), *The Industrial Problem*, 3/ net.
 Organized Labour and Capital, 3/ net.
 Riss (J. A.), *The Peril and the Preservation of the Home*, 3/ net.

History and Biography.

Armstrong (E. la T.), *The Book of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria, 1856-1906*.
 Bussey (H. F.), *Sixty Years of Journalism*, 3/6.
 Clephan (R. C.), *An Outline of the History and Development of Hand Firearms to the End of the Fifteenth Century*. (Privately printed.)
 Davis (Col. J.), *History of the 2nd, Queen's Royal Regiment*, Vols. V and VI, 34/ net each.
 Duniway (C. A.), *The Development of Freedom of the Press in Massachusetts*, 7/6.
 Ellwood (T.), *Life*, edited by S. Graveson, 10/ net.
 Jackson (B. D.), *George Bentham*, 2/6 net.
 Reade (A. L.), *Readers of Blackwood Hall, with Full Account of Dr. Johnson's Ancestry*. (Privately printed.)
 Redway (Major G. W.), *Fredericksburg, a Study in War*, 5/ net.
 Reich (E.), *Hungarian Literature, an Historical and Critical Survey*, Second Edition, 3/6 net.
 Sherard (R. H.), *The Life of Oscar Wilde*, 12/6 net.
 Staley (E.), *The Guilds of Florence*, 16/ net.
 'Times' *History of the War in South Africa*, Vol. IV., edited by B. Williams, 21/ net.
 Trelawny's *Recollections of Shelley and Byron*, Introduction by E. Dowden, 2/6 net.
 Wedgwood (E.), *The Memoirs of the Lord of Joinville*, 9/ net.
 Williamson (M. G.), *Edinburgh*, 4/6 net.

Geography and Travel.

Arrowsmith's *Dictionary of Bristol*, Second Edition, 5/ net.
 Bacon's *Pocket Atlas and Gazetteer of the World*, Revised Edition, 2/6 net.
 Breaks (H.), *Log of H.M.S. Bonaventure, 1903-6*, 4/ net.
 Rolfe (W. J.), *A Satchel Guide for the Vacation Tourist in Europe*, 6/ net.
 Seaside Watering-Places, Seasons 1906-7, 2/6 net.
 Smith (A.), *A Summer in Skye*, 3/6.
 Universal Steamship Guide: Passenger Section, 1906-7, 10/ net.

Sports and Pastimes.

Dryborough (T. B.), *Polo*, Enlarged Edition, 15/ net.

Folk-Lore.

Haddon (A. C.), *Magic and Folk-lore Fetishism*, 1/ net.

Education.

Brown (M. A.), *Child Life in our Schools*, 3/6 net.

Philology.

Every Man's *Dictionary of the English Language*, revised by C. A. Goodrich from Webster, 5/.
 Holroyd (Col. W. R. M.), *Hindustani for Every Day*, 8/ net.
 Trench (R. C.), *A Select Glossary of English Words*, edited by A. Smythe Palmer, 2/6.

School-Books.

Arnold's *Modern French*, Book I., edited by H. L. Hutton, 1/6.
 Blackie's *Little French Classics*: Vigny's *Histoire de l'Adjudant*; *Choix de Poésies pour les Enfants*, 4d. each.
 Elliot (G. F. S.), *A First Course in Practical Botany*, 3/6.
 Exercises in Spelling, Dictation, and Composition for Middle Forms, 6d.
 Livy, *The Second Macedonian War*, edited by W. J. Hemsley and J. Aston, 1/6.
 Macaulay, *Narratives from*, 1/ Middlesex, 8d.
 Ninet (M.), *Un Petit Voyage à Paris*, 1/6.
 Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, edited by P. T. Cresswell, 1/.
 Sprague (W. H.), *Easy Latin Prose*, 1/6.
 Wyatt-Davies (E.), *Outlines of British History for Catholic Schools*, 2/6.

Science.

Bell (L.), *Electric Power Transmission*, Fourth Edition, 16/ net.
 Buchanan (A. M.), *Manual of Anatomy: Vol. I. Osteology*, Upper Limb, Lower Limb, 12/6 net.
 Cvijic (J.), *Remarks on the Ethnography of the Macedonian Slavs*. (Privately printed.)
 Goudie (W. J.), *The Geometry of the Screw Propeller*, 1/6 net.
 Harwood (W. S.), *The New Earth: a Recital of the Triumphs of Modern Agriculture in America*, 7/6 net.
 Hulier (J. B.), *Consumption and Civilization*, 15/ net.
 Knuth (Dr. P.), *Handbook of Flower Pollination*, translated by J. R. A. Davis, Vol. I., 18/ net.
 Montgomery (T. H.), *The Analysis of Racial Descent in Animals*, 10/6 net.
 Sainsbury (H.), *Principia Therapeutica*, 7/6 net.
 Shaw (J.), *Fibroid Tumour*, 2/6 net.

Stonham (C.), *The Birds of the British Islands, Part I.*, 7/6 net.

Telegraphy, Telephony, Electrolysis, and some Miscellaneous Applications of Electricity, 4/8 net.

Juvenile Books.

Golding (V.), *The Story of Livingstone*, 1/6 net.

Kelly (M. D.), *Sir Walter Raleigh*, 1/6 net.

General Literature.

Askew (J. B.), *Pros and Cons*, edited by A. M. Hyamson, Fourth Edition, 1/ net.

Beach (R. E.), *The Spoilers of the North*.
 Brehner (P. J.), *The Crucible of Circumstance*, 6/.
 Browne's *Religio Medici*, and other Essays (Red-Letter Library), 2/6 net.

Deeping (W.), *Uther and Igraine*, 6/; *Bess of the Woods*.
 Everett-Green (E.), *The Master of Marshlands*, 6/.
 Fogazzaro (A.), *The Saint*, translated by M. Pritchard-Agnelli, 6/.

Hale (L. C.), *A Motor-Car Divorce*, 6/.
 Hampstead Garner, compiled by A. M. C., Preface by Clement Shorter, 3/8 net.

Merrick (L.), *Whispers about Women*, 6/.
 Pease (Howard), *Of Mistress Eve*, 6/.
 Royal University of Ireland, *Calendar for 1906*.
 Sergeant (A.), *The Coming of the Randolphs*, 6/.

Seton (E. T.), *Animal Heroes*, 6/ net.
 Skinner (T.), *The London Banks and Kindred Companies and Firms, 1906-7*, 10/ net.

Sturgis (H.), *All that was Possible*, 6/.
 Van Vorst (M.), *The Sin of George Warner*, 6/.
 Warden (Florence), *Law, not Justice*, 6/.

Wells (J.), *The Oxford Degree Ceremony*, 1/6 net.
 Woodhouse (A.), *The Foundations of National Greatness*.
 World's Classics, Pocket Edition: Gibbon's *Roman Empire*, Vols. III., VI., and VII.; *The Odyssey of Homer*; *Poetical Works of Longfellow*, Vol. I.; *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*; *Twenty-Three Tales by Tolstoy*; *Borrow's Romany Rye*, and the *Bible in Spain*; *Chaucer's Poetical Works*, Vol. III.; *Hazlitt's Winterslow*; *Works of Burke*, Vol. I., 1/ net each.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Luchaire (A.), *Innocent III., la Papauté et l'Empire*, 3fr. 50.
 Wobbermin (Dr. G.), *Ernst Haackel im Kampf gegen die christliche Weltanschauung*, 50.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Hallays (A.), *Les Villes d'Art célèbres: Nancy*, 4fr.

Music.

Likmann (B.), *Clara Schumann, Vol. II.*

History and Biography.

Bossert (A.), *Calvin*, 2fr.
 Roca (E.), *Le Grand Siècle intime: Le Règne de Richelieu, 1617-42*, 3fr. 50.

Geography and Travel.

Lajonguère (E. L. de), *Le Siam et les Siamois*, 3fr. 50.

Philology.

Borman (E.), *Francis Bacon's Klein-Geheimschrift u. ihre Enthüllungen*, 7m. 50.
 Crönert (W.), *Kolotes u. Menedemos, Texte u. Untersuchungen zur Philosophie- u. Literaturgeschichte*, 30m.
 Reuschel (K.), *Die deutschen Weltgerichtsspiele des Mittelalters und der Reformationszeit*.

Mathematics and Science.

Burliniaux (Dr.), *La Lutte pour la Santé*, 3fr. 50.
 Enzyklopadie der mathematischen Wissenschaften: Vol. IV. *Mechanik*, Part II. Section III., 5m. 80.
 Flahault (C.), *Nouvelle Flore colorée de Poche des Alpes et des Pyrénées*, 6fr. 50.

General Literature.

Aderer (A.), *Une grande Dame aime...*, 3fr. 50.
 Aicard (J.), *Benjamin*, 3fr. 50.
 Hirsch (C. H.), *Les Disparates*, 3fr. 50.
 Lavedan (H.), *Le bon Temps*, 3fr. 50.
 Maïre (E. Le), *Le Bâta d'Antoinette*, 3fr. 50.
 Mazel (H.), *Ce qu'il faut lire dans sa Vie*, 3fr. 50.
 Valdagne (P.), *Parentèle amoureuse*, 3fr. 50.
 Villiod (E.), *Les Plaisances sociales: La Machine à voler*, 3fr. 50.
 Virgilij (G. A.), *Il Sentimento imperialista*, Studio psico-sociologico, 3li. 50.
 Wilde (Oscar), *L'Âme de l'Homme*, traduit par P. Grosfills, 4fr.

* * All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

MY BLACKBIRD AND I.

[Suggested by a touching episode in the late Michael Davitt's life in Portland Gaol in 1881, recorded by him in his 'Leaves from a Prison Diary.']

(All musical rights reserved.)

WHEN first you came to me,
 And so little you knew me
 That from me you struggled
 With wild beating breast,
 Red sun-rays up-jetting
 On fire seemed setting
 The wavering woodland
 Where once was your nest—
 Then, my own dawning blackbird,
 The tears my eyes blinded,
 As my heart was reminded
 How, a child, long ago
 With strangers I shivered,
 While the cruel flames quivered
 Through our kindly old roof-tree
 In lovely Mayo.

That thought, trembling blackbird,
 To my bosom endeared you,
 And ever I cheered you

Till so friendly we grew
 That together we'd forage
 At the one plate of porridge,
 And from the same pitcher

Be both sipping too.
 Then so sweetly you'd chuckle
 From off my knuckle,
 That, my tired eyes closing

To drink in the sound,
 By its glad spell uplifted
 From my sad cell I drifted
 To the joyful enchantment

Of green Irish ground.

Now below, blessed hour!
 Even my grey prison's bowser
 Is laughing with flower
 In the eye of the sun;
 Rude cliffs throw soft shadows
 On green ocean meadows,
 And the homesteads of free men
 Shine out one by one.

O who could keep captives
 In solitude pining,
 With such a sun shining,
 Such bliss in the blue?

I lingered and lingered,
 And then trembling-fingered
 I opened your cage door,
 And from me you flew.

ALFRED PERCEVAL GRAVES.

NOTES FROM DUBLIN.

THE tardy announcement of the formation of the Royal Commission on Trinity College, its revenues, and its University, makes it impossible that much work can be done before the Long Vacation. Members of the College who have been working hard all the year will not curtail their holidays to appear before a body of men who are only intended to collect evidence which is already, for the most part, in print in various returns made to Parliament. The composition of the Commission has, of course, been subject to various criticisms. It is generally admitted that five of its members are the very best that could have been selected. The rest are either too little known or too well known to command respect. On such a Commission each member should be a man of importance; he should not be known as a violent partisan or a man of unbridled utterance; he should not be a subordinate, or one whose personal interests may be concerned. There are important members of the University who may decline to be cross-examined by a man who has openly declared himself their enemy and the enemy of the College. It is plain enough that in the desire to satisfy the demands of divers parties the Commission has been enlarged beyond an original wise selection of a smaller body. The only member of the Church of Ireland is Dr. Douglas Hyde, who seems to be ignored in the demand made by Sir E. Carson in the House on the 12th inst. There is no man who commands more confidence in Ireland than Sir Edward Fry. His management of another very difficult inquiry some years ago demonstrated his ability and his perfect fairness, and if any one can smooth over the initial difficulties with which the path is beset, it is he. Whether his task will include the framing of any new scheme for higher education in Ireland does not yet appear, and there is still a very general feeling that the whole business will rather postpone than promote reforms. It is not likely that by the time that the Commission have drawn up their report, or reports, the Chief Secretary will be in any humour to face a great controversial Bill on education.

Meanwhile, it is earnestly to be hoped that Trinity College may wake up to the necessity of vigorous internal reform.

The recent Fellowship Examination, where the prize awarded is one of the greatest in the literary world, and where even the unsuccessful get large rewards, produced but three candidates, and of these only one fresh one. All three were, indeed, able and learned men, and their answering was of high quality; but where are all the distinguished young men to whom such a prize should be the highest attraction? They seem to be deterred by various causes, of which the chief is the consideration that it takes four or five years at least on the average to succeed, and that after such delay failure is a fatal blow. A man of twenty-eight or thirty can hardly expect to take up a new walk in life with any good prospects, especially when he has been wearied out with excessive labour and disappointment. At all events, the present system, which fails to produce satisfactory competition, and after which even the successful man is often much impaired by overwork, must be changed. Yet while a change is admitted by all but the most wooden-headed Conservatives to be expedient, the question, What change? excites divers and conflicting answers. If the Commission is competent to give the College authoritative advice on this point, its labours will, indeed, have one good result.

The simultaneous Scholarship Examination showed an analogous failure in competitors. There were hardly more than two competitors for each scholarship. Nevertheless the first place was gained on marks higher than any obtained since Prof. J. B. Bury competed as a boy. The second place was obtained by a girl-student, whose answering was also of very high quality, and it is a pity that the degree which she will presently obtain will not be distinguished by some special mark from the many so-called "ad eundem" now scattered over England, which represent no studies in the College.

M.

THE PUBLISHERS' INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT MILAN.

THE Publishers' Fifth International Congress was held in the Villa Reale at Milan from the 6th to the 10th inst., and was unusually well attended. The members number about three hundred, and there were delegates from all the publishers' associations of the various nations. Besides the Italians, who, being on their own ground, formed the largest contingent, there were present German and French publishers in goodly numbers; Hungarians, Swedes, Dutch, Russians, and Spaniards. England did not send many representatives; unfortunately, several gentlemen whose opinions carry weight were unable to attend. There were, however, two notable visitors, Mr. Fisher Unwin and Mr. Heinemann, who contributed important papers to the Congress, the former dealing with 'Modern Taxes on Knowledge' and 'Some Barriers to International Intellectual Intercourse,' and the latter placing before the Congress the question whether certain new methods of putting books into circulation are advantageous to production. The United States had only one, but that one a prominent representative, Dr. George Haven Putnam, whose ability and eloquence were appreciated by every one.

After the Congress held at Leipsic in June, 1901, the Permanent Bureau for carrying out the resolutions passed by the Congress

began its activity at Berne, where it has its head-quarters, and where it will proceed to the work resulting from the proposals of the Congress of Milan, and to the continuation of its investigations concerning motions the execution of which is unfinished, or those on which inquiries have been opened. The work of the Permanent Bureau consists chiefly in procuring the adhesion of fresh States to the Berne Convention, and in supporting the various national associations in their requests for improvement in legislation. It is governed by an Executive Committee and an International Commission, which meets once a year in the month of June.

The opening session was held on June 6th in the hall of the Villa Reale, when speeches were delivered by the authorities representing the Italian Government and the Municipality of Milan. The President of the Committee of Management and of the Congress, to whom is due the brilliant success of this Milanese conference, was Commendatore Tito Ricordi, of the well-known music firm. He is young and energetic, and directed the meetings and discussions with great tact and firmness. It is unnecessary to enumerate all the speeches made before the Congress by the various delegates of the publishers' associations: I need only mention that the Società Bibliografica Italiana, which had on the preceding days held its own seventh congress in that same hall, advised all publishers to add to scientific books those indexes of names and subjects which render possible both research and the compilation of catalogues. Discussions on the questions brought forward followed immediately. The first to speak was Dr. Putnam, who set forth very clearly what has been done in America for book protection and the difficulties encountered through the opposition of the manufacturing classes, who are able, by reason of their superior numbers, to impose their views on Congress at Washington. This question of American copyright was resumed at the plenary session the next day, and provoked a lively discussion between Mr. Heinemann and Dr. Putnam. The former desired that the delay conceded to the English publishers should be increased from sixty to ninety days, and Dr. Putnam pointed out that this longer delay is opposed specially by librarians who regret that they cannot during this period make usufruct of English books, a proceeding disadvantageous to culture. Commendatore Ricordi proposed that they should not insist on the clause of American manufacture for scientific books, and the Congress earnestly hoped that the United States would soon pass a Bill unreservedly accepting the principles of international protection of authors' rights.

Another important question was that concerning publishing contracts, for which the Permanent Bureau had prepared a useful publication giving all the various laws and information relating to the subject; and the Bureau itself was commissioned to present to the next Congress a supplementary report, suggesting forms for such agreements between author and publisher. Other votes and resolutions followed, on the development of book-cavassing, and on the subject of an agreement between all persons interested in the rights of performance in Germany. The Congress expressed the hope that the German association would take note of the wishes of musical composers and publishers, and allow the adhesion of these two groups to the institution; and it proposed that societies should be formed for the explanation of the rights of performance. Another proposal in connexion with music was made, important in view of the great increase in

methods of mechanical reproduction such as the gramophone, namely, the abolition of paragraph 3 of the protocol of closure of the Berne Convention, which does not regard such reproduction as an infringement of rights.

The artistic section confined its resolutions to advising the compilation of national catalogues of works of art. Meanwhile, in the book section, which was the most numerous attended, an animated discussion was in progress on the question of the "copy-tax," and it was resolved that for the acknowledgment of copyright no formality ought to be required.

After an excursion to Como, Saturday, the 9th, was devoted to the subjects brought forward by Messrs. Fisher Unwin, Hoepli, and Vandeveld, namely, customs dues, taxes on books, and all the other restrictions which are a hindrance to trade; and it was unanimously voted that all such formalities should be abolished. Some very sensible suggestions on the compilation of booksellers' catalogues were made by the associate P. Barbèra, who took the opportunity of supporting the adoption of the convenient system of decimal classification, and proposed that the Permanent Bureau of Berne should publish a list of international regulations for the compiling of book catalogues.

Two final questions occupied the attention of the Congress. One was the adhesion of the minor poets to the Berne Convention, on which the Congress came to no decision; the other was the discount on the sale of the society's books allowed to its members. To this discount the Congress was decidedly opposed.

The labours of the Congress then terminated with the usual greetings and congratulations; but nothing was decided with reference to the place of the next Congress, the Permanent Bureau having the choice between Spain and Holland, between Madrid and the Hague. The reunion at Milan will be memorable for the cordial reception every one received and the complete harmony which reigned. The serenity of the various debates resembled that of the sky of Lombardy, which, as Manzoni says, "is so fine when it is fine."

G. B.

'THE OPEN ROAD' AND 'TRAVELLER'S JOY.'

June 18th, 1906.

No, I did not "studiously evade" Mr. Lucas's "only point," and when I maintain this, in denial of his fresh accusation, I hope, as he would say, that "I am not singular in my view." I "studiously" attempted to deal with all his points. There were three: (a) that in our production of 'Traveller's Joy' I had copied the original form of 'The Open Road' (shall I be discourteous if I say that in his first letter Mr. Lucas "studiously" made little or nothing of the fact that he had abandoned its chief distinction, its cover?); (b) that I had, implied, commissioned an anthology "as like as possible in idea" to his book—Mr. W. G. Waters has disposed of that suggestion; (c) that I had failed to pay him what I owed him. He is unreasonable. First—no doubt convinced that in this way his interests would be best served—he assists in subjecting me to the discomfort and the disgrace of proceedings in bankruptcy—a disgrace that I can only attempt to wipe out in one way; then he takes from the rest of my creditors a rather valuable asset—a half share in 'The Open Road'—on a minor legal point based on my own carelessness in failing to secure an assignment of copyright, as I had in effect done in the case of his other books;

and now, complaining that this time he has "no legal redress," he falls back on "moral rights," and claims that it is undesirable that "a publisher in Mr. Grant Richards's position should, when he starts anew, include in his list any book that is likely to injure the sale of his previous books on which he still owes money." There is a fine confusion here: I have not started anew—as I have already stated in your columns, my position is that of manager to a new house; I fancy that the law has in effect relieved me, although against my will, of financial obligation to Mr. Lucas, so it is not becoming in him publicly to remind me of my sin twice in fifteen days; several of every publisher's books are bound to injure the sale of books that have hitherto held the field: so, for instance, did Mr. Lucas's 'A Book of Verses for Children' injure the sale of previous similar anthologies; so did Mr. Lucas's series of "Little Blue Books for Children," whose beginning followed his leaving my firm, injure the sale of my "Dumpy Books for Children," with which he had been previously associated.

In one thing Mr. Lucas is right: whether I owe him a large sum or a small one is irrelevant to the main question. But he *did* drag that point in. I have sufficiently tried your readers' patience, or I would ask them to turn back to his first letter and to see whether he did not succeed—I hope not "studiously"—in giving the impression that he had had little if any financial satisfaction from me, and that when I failed he suffered in proportion. That is the impression I sought to remove. Of the total amount earned by Mr. Lucas, on account of his books and his other services to my firm, one fifteenth part (as nearly as possible) remains unpaid, and if every fortnight Mr. Lucas claims the hospitality of your columns to announce the fact I shall not continue to protest. Still, as I said two weeks ago, I hope he will have cause before very long to abandon this part of his grievance.

Mr. Lucas must not be angry with me for working in a publisher's office. If I sold matches in the street I should certainly please some people, but even under the most favourable circumstances I could not hope to earn enough in that branch of commerce to wipe out the bankruptcy proceedings; nor am I young enough to start in some fresh trade. By and by I hope my creditors may realize that in being connected with the starting of a new publishing house I am selling what talents I have for their advantage.

GRANT RICHARDS.

June 18th, 1906.

I HAVE followed with interest the controversy between Mr. E. V. Lucas and Mr. Grant Richards in *The Athenæum* under the above heading, and since Mr. E. V. Lucas "hopes to interest public opinion in the matter," as an author and publisher's reader I write to say that such "doublings" of books that have achieved popularity are far too common, whether put forward by scrupulous or unscrupulous publishers.

An author issues a book B, which, let us say, is original in the sense that it is no imitation, either in letter or in spirit, of any book which has preceded it. And no sooner has B won popularity than we find some enterprising gentleman, prompted no less by the highest motives than by his commercial instincts, appearing in the field with a volume B2, which in idea and format is a direct and palpable imitation of B, and is confounded with it by the ignorant public.

In the case of the present controversy, so far as I follow Mr. Grant Richards's argument, he claims that he has a right to issue 'Tra-

veller's Joy' in what is practically the original format of 'The Open Road,' since other imitations have appeared, and since he himself is the originator of that format. From the point of view of taste, however, it is most unfortunate for Mr. Grant Richards that the book he should have elected to clothe in that format is an anthology for travellers which we might have called "original" in spirit, style, and arrangement, had it not been preceded by 'The Open Road.' As to Mr. W. G. Waters, it is most unfortunate that if his volume 'Traveller's Joy' be, as he asserts, in idea and arrangement no imitation of 'The Open Road,' he should have allowed it to be issued in what is practically the original style and format of that volume. For, while accepting his disclaimer of plagiarism, we are reminded of a servant who dresses herself in the cast-off garments of her mistress.

Without impugning either the motives or the statements of either the author or the publisher of 'Traveller's Joy,' I may point out to them that the literary world, that followed with much interest the lawsuit between Mr. E. V. Lucas and Mr. Grant Richards, which gave the copyright of 'The Open Road' to the former, will be disposed to think that on the score of good taste alone, not to speak of publishing policy, Mr. Grant Richards would do well to find for so original a book as 'Traveller's Joy' a format even more original.

EDWARD GARNETT.

CREIGHTON MEMORIAL.

THE committee formed to raise a memorial to Creighton handed over to Mrs. Creighton, at the close of its work in October, 1905, the residue of the subscriptions, amounting to 278*l*. She intends to present this sum, which she has raised to 300*l*, to the University of London, as a nucleus for the endowment of a Creighton Lectureship or Professorship of History. The friends of the late bishop ask for further contributions to that end. Over 100*l* has already been privately raised, and an appeal is now made to a wider public. What can be done must depend on the assistance received; but, in any case, a Creighton Lectureship will be founded. The scheme has our warm commendation, and we hope that it will be widely supported. Subscriptions may be sent to Miss Mary Bateson, 9, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge.

Literary Gossip.

THE July number of *The Independent Review* will contain articles by Archdeacon Wilson on 'The Education Bill: a Lost Opportunity,' and by Canon Barnett on 'The Press and Charitable Funds.' Prof. Paul Vinogradoff is contributing a paper on 'The First Month of the Duma,' and Principal Laurie one on 'The Report of the Haldane Committee.' Among the other articles in the number will be 'Shakespeare, Ibsen, and Mr. Bernard Shaw,' by Mr. G. Lowes Dickinson; 'The Lords and the Aliens Bill,' by Mr. John Ward, M.P.; 'The Paintings of Gustave Moreau,' by Mr. C. C. Michaelides; and 'Anti-Militarism in France: a Reply,' by Lieut.-Col. Keene.

In *The Cornhill Magazine* for July Mr. A. D. Godley finds a subject for his humorous verses 'The Incubus' in the

discussions on the Education Bill. 'The Mind of a Dog,' by Prof. S. Alexander, is an untechnical excursion into psychology. In 'Twenty Years in London, by a French Resident,' Mr. Paul Villars gives many episodes from his personal experience. Mr. Charles Godfrey, the head of the Naval School at Osborne, writes on 'The Passing of Euclid'; and in 'General Marbot and his Memoirs' Dr. Holland Rose discusses the authenticity of that vivacious work. Mr. R. Brudenell Carter contributes a common-sense view of 'Alcohol and Tobacco.'

THE July *Blackwood* appropriately opens with an article by Mr. Charles Whibley on George Buchanan, whose grim old face has appeared on the cover of the magazine from its start, and whose four-hundredth anniversary falls due next month. Another four-hundredth anniversary article is on Rembrandt by Mr. D. S. Meldrum. Among other items are 'Forty Singing Seamen,' a poem by Mr. Alfred Noyes; 'Moving towards a Territorial Army,' by General Chapman, C.B.; and 'The Greatest Game Beast in Europe,' by Mr. Hesketh Prichard.

MR. HEINEMANN is publishing in the autumn a new edition of Mr. Arthur Symons's collected 'Poems' in two volumes, and a new volume, 'The Fool of the World, and other Poems,' containing the morality play recently acted, and a number of lyrical poems, the work of the last five or six years.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. are also publishing for Mr. Symons a volume named 'Studies in Seven Arts,' which has been in preparation for many years, and will contain essays on Rodin, Whistler, Watts, Moreau, Wagner, Strauss, Duse, and other typically modern artists. Mr. Symons has in preparation for the same publishers a book on William Blake, which will contain a complete study of the man, the poet, and the painter, together with various unpublished and little-known documents giving contemporary accounts of Blake. Among these will be a transcript of all the references to Blake in the Diary, Reminiscences, and Letters of Crabb Robinson, made for the first time from the original manuscript, which has never been printed in full.

BLAKE is being largely studied. Mr. John Lane has in active preparation a cheap edition of Gilchrist's 'Life of William Blake' in one volume. Mr. W. Graham Robertson, who has the finest known collection of Blake pictures, has edited the text, and written an Introduction; but what is of greater interest to Blake lovers, he has enriched Gilchrist's work with a large number of the most perfect of Blake's drawings and pictures. In addition to these, the majority of the illustrations originally selected by Gilchrist for the 'Life' will be included. Those who have seen the unique exhibition of Blake pictures at the Carfax Gallery, the nucleus of which is from Mr. Robertson's collection, will be interested to learn that a number of these have been reproduced.

MR. MARION CRAWFORD has recently received authorization to use material of great importance for Italian mediæval history, which has hitherto lain almost unknown in the Colonna archives at Rome. Some of the documents have, however, been classified under the direction of Prof. Tommasato.

PROF. GEORGE COCKBURN HENDERSON, who holds the Chair of History at Adelaide, New South Wales, has on hand a life of Sir George Grey, which Messrs. Dent are to publish. He has visited New Zealand and South Africa in order to inspect original documents for this work.

AN exhaustive work on Haddon Hall, by Mr. G. Le Blanc Smith, is announced to be published by Mr. Elliot Stock immediately, under the title 'Haddon: the Manor, the Hall: its Lords and Traditions.' The book will deal with the great families who have owned Haddon since the Conquest, and will furnish much hitherto unpublished information concerning the estate and its owners. It will, among other interesting items, give in detail some curious stewards' accounts; the only existing letter of Dorothy Vernon, with a facsimile of her signature; and the pedigree of the Vernons from Godfrey the Consul to the present time. A full description of the ancient fabric, its store of tapestry, old glass, carvings, and metal-work, is included, and the whole will be fully illustrated by photographs and facsimiles. The book will be dedicated to the Duke of Rutland, by whose permission it has been compiled.

FATHER ROBERT HUGH BENSON's next historical romance will be published on July 2nd by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons. Its title is 'The Queen's Tragedy,' and it is a story of England in the middle of the sixteenth century, with Mary Tudor for its central figure. Her sister Elizabeth also figures prominently in the book, and the interpretation of her character is said to run counter to tradition.

LORD REDESDALE's account of the 'Garter Mission to Japan' will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. next Tuesday.

'CONISTON,' the new novel by Mr. Winston Churchill, the author of 'Richard Carvel,' which the same firm had hoped to publish last autumn, will actually appear in the early days of July. It does not belong to the series of historical romances which made the author's reputation, but is a tale of modern life and politics, with a love story interwoven.

CANON MACCOLL has ready for publication a volume entitled 'The Royal Commission and the Ornaments Rubric.' It is a detailed criticism of his five days' examination by the Royal Commission on the historical and legal meaning of the famous rubric.

THE remarkable collection of Lincoln relics which was the property of Major William H. Lambert, of Philadelphia, was destroyed by fire on the 5th inst. It included 1,000 volumes from Lincoln's own library, his private desk, over 1,600

books dealing with his career, several hundred original Lincoln manuscripts, as well as the table at which he sat when signing the emancipation proclamation. Major Lambert owned several MSS. by Thackeray, which have also been destroyed.

Temple Bar for July contains a critical essay on Stendhal, describing his military experiences and analyzing his novels, by Mr. H. H. Dodwell. Lieut.-Col. A. Haggard in 'A Sainte Marguerite Salmon' narrates some exciting adventures in pursuit of the land-locked salmon in the whirlpool by the Ile Maligne. 'Sleepy Town' is a pen-and-ink sketch of "a tiny mediæval world" discovered by Mrs. Arthur Ransome when "walking south from the Lake Country." In 'A Taste of Vintage' Miss H. H. Colvill shows the process of wine-making in Sulmona of the Abruzzi.

THE Baroness Suzette de Zuylen de Nyevelt has contributed to the July number of the *Sunday at Home* an article on 'The Letters of the Duchesse de Broglie,' the well-known daughter of Madame de Staël. Many of these letters were written to M. Guizot. The same number will contain a critical character-sketch of the German Emperor; an illustrated article on Florence, by the editor; and an article 'On the Bulgarian Border,' by Mr. Frederick Moore, in which the writer predicts that revolution of a determined character is not far off in Macedonia.

THE results recently announced of the Mediæval and Modern Languages Tripos at Cambridge show that Girton and Newnham take much more kindly to this line of study than the rest of the University. There are two firsts and two seconds among the men, whereas women get six firsts and nine seconds.

THE 'History of the Tron Kirk and Parish of Edinburgh,' by the Rev. Dugald Butler, minister of the Tron Kirk, is promised by Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier in the autumn. The Rev. James MacGregor has contributed some reminiscences, and the appendix includes an account of Ruskin's ancestors in the Tron parish.

THE contents of the July issue of *The Home Counties Magazine* will include articles upon Thomas Fry of Penshurst, 'Gray's Village,' 'Paul's Cross,' 'Old Pewter,' 'Tom Brown's Country,' and 'Ralph Thoresby in London.'

MR. JAMES TREGASKIS, of High Holborn, has had the good fortune to secure a small octavo volume entitled 'Auteurs Deguisez,' 1690, in the interlinear spaces of which René Auguste Constantin de Renneville, the first historian of the Bastille (in which he was confined from May 16th, 1702, until June 16th, 1713), has written various hitherto unknown particulars of his life. Twenty-seven of the leaves contain a finely written poem of 2,052 lines, dealing with the events of De Renneville's prison life, with moral reflections thereon; and it is claimed that Voltaire founded one of the songs—the seventh—of 'La Henriade' on this MS. poem of De Renneville.

THE annual meeting of the London Library was held last Friday week, and attended by a distinguished company. The Report of the Committee proved that the library was in a prosperous and well-assured condition, though the number of members showed a decrease of 92. Mr. Balfour, who presided, paid a just tribute to the special character of the library which distinguishes it from other institutions of the sort. He called attention to the admirable organization and extent of the concern, which was unequalled in its supply of foreign books; also to the important catalogue of books according to subjects which the secretary was preparing.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT now announce the official 'History of the War in South Africa' in four volumes. The first volume will contain twenty-nine maps and panoramas.

THE HON. HARRY LAWSON will preside at the sixty-seventh anniversary festival in aid of the funds of the Newsvendors' Institution, at De Keyser's Royal Hotel, on Monday, November 5th.

M. MAURICE CASTELAIN has just published a French prose translation of Shelley's 'Hellas,' accompanied by the English text and notes.

A CONVERSAZIONE is to be given by the Alliance Anglo-Britannique at the rooms of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours on Tuesday evening next. An attractive musical programme is being arranged.

A LIST of a number of annual prizes at the disposal of the Académie Française was published in the Paris papers on Wednesday. It is too long to quote here in full, but a few of the more interesting awards may be named. M. Auguste Dupouy, among the poets, gets the first Prix Archon-Despérouses for his book 'Partances.' Among the several Prix Montyon, which reach the aggregate value of 19,000fr., Lieut. Paul Azan receives 1,500fr. for his 'Récits d'Afrique,' and a similar amount goes to M. Emile Bocquillon for his 'Crise du Patriotisme à l'École.' Twenty other fortunate authors receive 500fr. each for works which fall in the category of "ouvrages les plus utiles aux mœurs." Under other "foundations" M. Henri Brémond gets 1,500fr. for his work on Newman, to the extent of which we recently referred. M. Octave Noël 1,000fr. for his 'Histoire du Commerce du Monde,' and M. Gaultier 1,400fr. for his 'Rire et Caricature.'

A MUSÉE GUSTAVE FLAUBERT was officially inaugurated on Sunday last at Croisset, near Rouen, where Flaubert passed a part of his life and composed all his more important works, from 'Madame Bovary' to 'La Tentation de Saint Antoine.'

THE death is announced, at the age of eighty-one, of M. Paulin Niboyet, who entered the French diplomatic service in 1848. He retired in 1880, and took to journalism. He wrote much for *La Patrie*

and other papers, chiefly under the pseudonym of "Fortunio"; whilst several of his novels obtained considerable popularity.

In recognition of his labours as editor-in-chief of the *Orientalische Bibliographie* for the past ten years the French Ministry of Public Instruction has conferred on Prof. Lucien Scherman, of the University of Munich, the distinction of Officier d'Académie. Prof. Scherman, who is also Professor of Sanskrit and comparative Philology at Munich, has devoted himself in the most unselfish manner to the *Orientalische Bibliographie*, a record which is a model of its kind. For a number of years learned societies like the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and the American Oriental Society have granted subventions for the maintenance of this publication, and within the past year the East India Office has also made a grant towards its cost. Prof. E. Kuhn, of the University of Munich, who has co-operated with Prof. Scherman in the editorial work of the *Bibliographie*, has been made Officier de l'Instruction Publique by the French Ministry, in recognition of his researches in Sanskrit and comparative philology.

THE death in his fifty-first year is announced from Tecklenburg, in Westphalia, of the well-known Berlin critic and poet Heinrich Hart. His critical work, undertaken in conjunction with his brother Julius, entitles him to a place among the founders of the modern school of German writers. He was for many years attached to the *Tägliche Rundschau* as dramatic critic. Of his own compositions, the tragedy 'Sedan' and the epic 'Das Lied der Menschheit' may be mentioned.

BJÖRNSSON has just finished a new novel, which is to be published by Messrs. Gyldendal, of Copenhagen. An English translation is being arranged for simultaneous publication.

IN addition to Parliamentary Papers noted by us under 'Science Gossip,' we mention the publication of Rules and Programme of Examinations of the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland (9d.); Index to Consular Reports on Trade and Subjects of General Interest (1s. 3d.); Memorandum on the Registration of Teachers and the Abolition of the Register (1d.); Return of the Non-Provided Schools in the County of Kent (5½d.); Regulations for the Instruction and Training of Pupil-Teachers (2½d.); and Regulations of the Scotch Education Department for the Preliminary Education, Training, and Certification of Teachers for Various Grades of Schools (2½d.).

SCIENCE

Plant Response as a Means of Physiological Investigation. By Jagadis Chunder Bose, D.Sc., Professor, Presidency College, Calcutta. (Longmans & Co.)

A VARIETY of responses, resulting from "special sensitiveness" to different

stimuli, have long been recognized in plants, and have formed the subject of many inquiries on the part of plant physiologists. Among them perhaps one of the best known is that of the plant to the influence of gravitation. The curvatures of stem and root resulting from the stimulus of gravity were long since demonstrated by Darwin, who noticed the special powers of the root tip as a perceptive organ. Until recently, though this subject had been studied by many distinguished men, and formed the theme of a brilliant presidential address to the Botanical Section at the British Association at Cambridge, it remained in the condition of descriptive rather than comprehensive science. We have had to rest content with the assumption that stem and root were differently sensitive to the same force, the stem being repulsed, the root attracted; while a third or lateral geotropism was introduced to explain horizontally growing organs. Similarly the movements in response to the stimulus of light were perforce treated as the results of negative, positive, or dia-heliotropic sensitiveness. The many other movements of "sleep," the special sensitiveness of *Mimosa*, or autonomous movement, as in the leaflets of *Desmodium*, were each described separately as specific capacities of the various plants or organs, for no unifying principle had been seen to underlie them all.

With the appearance of the important book by Prof. Bose on 'Plant Response,' we have for the first time a conception which embraces all the expressed or unexpressed "sensitiveness" of plants. We are now presented with a complete theory of their movements—a theory which may or may not stand the test of further work, but which will be of great service, even to those who may in the future supersede it.

In the 750 pages of the book are condensed such numerous observations and experiments on living plants that one who knows how long such work takes can only wonder at its quantity. The chapters are grouped in nine parts, each bearing on some special aspect of the large subject under discussion. Each chapter is provided with a good summary, and the whole is well indexed and arranged with a view to its usefulness to students. The text is copiously illustrated, chiefly with diagrams of responses recorded by the plants themselves in the course of the various experiments.

The first part deals with electrical and mechanical response, and shows that these responses form a convenient indication of the effect of stimuli, noting also how closely their records correspond. An important point is made in the demonstration by various means of the fact that even ordinary "insensitive" plants are really sensitive, and that the difference lies not so much in varieties of sensitiveness in different plants as in their mechanical structure, which allows or retards the movements resulting from stimulation. *Mimosa* is sensitive, not because it is specially receptive of stimuli, but because

it has in its pulvinus a structure which allows of the free play of the leaf, which is inhibited by the hardened tissue in most plants.

First on reading this part, and again several times in the course of the book, one cannot but feel that, important and convincing though most of the experiments are, there is a tendency to look at the subject rather from one side. Sufficient attention does not always seem to have been given to the detailed anatomy of the structures on which the experiment was being conducted.

The second part deals with the effects of anæsthetics, chemical poisons, fatigue, and the critical point of death. The exact detection of the last has long been a difficulty, which Prof. Bose has apparently solved. The results are of great interest, and show exact coincidence in the critical point of death in the case of specimens which have had the same history, but reveal considerable divergence between specimens of the same species which have been under different conditions. A question of some importance, viz., the power of withstanding extremes of temperature far beyond the maxima and minima of ordinary conditions, which is exhibited by completely dry seeds, is not entered into—probably because the electrical and mechanical response of stimuli under such conditions would be difficult, if not impossible, to obtain by the methods employed here. A means of demonstrating the effect of previous stimuli on the death point is exceedingly pretty. In plants which are naturally coloured, if the small parts of a petal are first "fatigued" locally by tetanizing shocks, the effect of which is invisible, and then the whole is heated to below the normal death point, the local changes of colour reveal that the "fatigued" areas die at a lower temperature than the rest of the petal. Such experiments are capable of a large amount of variation, and will yield valuable "thermographs," as the resulting parti-coloured "prints" are named.

The third part deals chiefly with the transmission and effects of electrical stimuli, and results parallel with those given above are obtained, the conductivity and excitability being reduced by the previous application of the stimuli of cold, anæsthetics, or the fatigue of previous shocks.

A most valuable and interesting account of experiments on, and an explanation of, autonomous movement and its relation to multiple response, forms the bulk of the fourth part. After a careful perusal of these chapters one is convinced that "automatism" has simply been the name used to cover our ignorance of the reason for movements which we did not understand, and for which we could see no immediate stimulus. Experiments here described on *Biophytum* and *Desmodium* show how the "sensitiveness" and "automatism," to use the old names for the movements characteristic of these plants, are simply the results of the condition of the plant and the stimuli to which it has

been submitted; both can be made to respond in either way at the will of the experimenter. It is impossible to mention the many cases in which the author convinces the reader; those where one might dissent are so much fewer that they are more easily noticed. In this section of the book, as indeed in others, we are not certain of the rectitude of the comparisons made so minutely between the leaflets of *Desmodium*, with their "automatic" pulsating movements, and the beating heart of the higher animals. It is true that in many ways they appear to correspond, and the records obtained from both show points of similarity; but the very directness and superficial simplicity of this likeness seem to be a little deceptive.

One of the most difficult of problems, viz., the ascent of sap, is dealt with in the fifth part—a subject which has been attacked by most plant physiologists, but concerning which no final decision has been reached. Although much is claimed in these chapters in this direction, the work is still far from complete. The results of the other parts, embodied in the law that stimulus produces excitatory contraction of the living cells, must have considerable bearing on the question; but the ascent of sap is not yet fully explained. The assertion that the vitality of the plant is essential is important, for that is a factor which recent workers have endeavoured to eliminate—unadvisedly we think. In the detail of these chapters, however, although much that is supplied is valuable, we find several points about which we disagree with the author; and on the whole this is the least satisfactory part of the book. Here, as already noticed, there seems to be a lack of due recognition of anatomical facts. For example, on p. 393 we read, "The ascent of sap is due to the propulsive energy of vigorous excitatory contraction proceeding from cell to cell." Now it should be remembered that it is by the *wood* of the tall trees that the water ascends, but, as every anatomist knows, the wood cells of these plants are not living cells, with protoplasm capable of stimulus, but *dead* cells devoid of contents, with much-thickened walls incapable of contraction. How, then, can we imagine the sap ascending by the force of the "contraction proceeding from cell to cell"? It is true that among the dead wood cells are the soft, living medullary rays; but they do not form the path of the water stream, nor are they vascular elements proper; while, further, that they are not supposed to assist is clear from the sentence on p. 396, "An interposition of parenchymatous elements may offer a relative obstruction to the transmission." Anatomists, and with them most botanists, will therefore find themselves hardly able to accept the explanation of the ascent of sap given in this book.

The sixth part, on growth, is extremely suggestive, but perhaps it is excelled by the seventh, which is chiefly concerned with geotropism. The demonstration that the opposite geotropic curvatures in root and shoot are not due to different sensi-

bilities, but are the result of the same stimulus and response acting through differently constructed parts, deserves careful attention, but is too elaborate to be dealt with here.

With heliotropism, in the eighth part, a similar result is achieved, and, to quote from one of the summaries, "the various responsive movements which occur under the action of light are thus explicable without the assumption of the possession by different organs of different specific sensibilities to light." Complete as is the view presented in these chapters by Prof. Bose, perhaps he has overlooked some of the previous work on this subject; for example, Oltmanns demonstrated that there was a positive and a negative movement in the same organ, according to the intensity of light—a point which Prof. Bose prepares to prove afresh.

The apparent insensitiveness to light on the part of tendrils was observed by Von Mohl, and is now explained by Prof. Bose as being the result of a very rapid lateral transmission of the stimulus, which causes the responsive contraction of these radial organs to take place nearly equally on all sides, with the result that they appear not to respond at all. If, however, the stimulus of light is transmitted so rapidly in this way, it does not appear clear to the reviewer why the mechanical stimulus of contact should not be also rapidly transmitted in them with a resulting uniform contraction, in place of the rapid twining which actually occurs.

As regards the light-perception of leaves, the statement is emphatic that it does not reside in the lamina, and that no specific dia-heliotropic sensitiveness is possessed by them. In conjunction with this, which from the experiments quoted in the text seems to be well established, it is interesting to refer to Haberlandt's recent paper dealing with the minute histology of the leaf tissues, where the evidence seems to point strongly in the other direction. This does not lessen the value of the present work, but helps one to appreciate the fact that only by the combined study from all points of view can one attain to an even approximately complete idea of the whole.

The ninth and last part correlates and summarizes the previous ones, and reiterates the view that a unity of type underlies the different responses of plants, the apparent differences depending on the mechanical structure of the organ affected. As would be expected from the previous works of this author, when he touches on the wider questions of the relation of plant response to that of the rest of the organic and inorganic world, he tends to draw parallels which appear more superficial than fundamental.

In a review it is impossible to do justice to a book of such size and detail. We may therefore add that it is one which no plant physiologist, however much he may combat details in it, can afford to ignore, which no student of any branch of botany should overlook, and which should prove suggestive to animal physiologists, possibly even to psychologists.

THE THEORY OF ELECTRONS AND ITS DIFFICULTIES.

I.

THOSE who hoped that Prof. J. J. Thomson's late lectures at the Royal Institution on 'The Corpuscular Theory of Matter' would take the form of a concise and intelligible statement of the whole electronic theory, and its bearing upon current views of matter, must have been considerably disappointed. Although something of the sort was foreshadowed in the first lecture of the course, the lecturer, after going in some detail through the principal experiments which first led physicists to consider seriously the atomic nature of electricity, drifted off into that experiment of Mayer's with floating magnets which seems to exercise a fatal fascination for him, and wound up with an account of the attempts lately made to determine the number of corpuscles within the atom, which he had to confess remains unsettled. Finally, we were assured that the object of the lectures, and perhaps of the theory too—for Prof. Thomson was rather ambiguous on this point—was the provision of "a model, a study of which might suggest relations between the properties of the atom which could then be investigated."

Our home-made oracles being thus Delphically vague on the most wide-reaching hypothesis of modern physics, it follows that we must look abroad for a clear idea of the electronic theory and its general results; and happily we find it in a lecture delivered before the Elektrotechniker-Verein of Berlin by Prof. H. A. Lorentz, of Leyden, who is, to an extent not always fully recognized by English physicists, the father of the electronic theory and the one who has done most for its propagation. The lecture was delivered so long ago as the Christmas of 1904, but is reprinted for the first time in the current number of the *Archives Néerlandaises*, with such notes, references, and other additions by the author as make it a nearly complete discussion of the discoveries bearing upon the subject up to the present time. We shall here endeavour to give briefly the main features of the theory of electrons as understood by Prof. Lorentz, and then to notice some of the questions it leaves unexplained.

By electrons, then, Prof. Lorentz understands those discrete particles, existing in all material bodies, whether solid, liquid, or gaseous, which act as carriers of electrical charges, and it is by their presence and action that he explains all electrical, magnetic, and most other physical phenomena. In addition to these, we must imagine as existing an ether always in repose and permeating everything, including the electrons themselves. This ether is the medium of transmission of all physical forces, and every electron creates in the ether surrounding it a field which, so long as the electron remains in repose, is entirely electrostatic, i.e., resembles that caused by a rod of glass or resin excited by friction. Immediately the electron moves, however, it gives rise to another force at right angles to the first, which is identical with that created by a magnet. The field composed by these two forces is invariable so long as the electron moves with the same speed and in the same direction, but at each change of speed or direction there takes place a radiation of energy in the shape of an electromagnetic wave. Should the speed be high enough, the wave is luminous; while if the electron be suddenly stopped, it gives rise to the disturbance in the ether called the Röntgen or X rays. The quantity of energy correspond-

ing to the field can be exactly determined by the equations of Maxwell, and forms the basis of most of the calculations used in electrical engineering; but it follows from what has been said that the only forces which can act upon the electron must operate by way of the ether and must come from other electrons. The electrons may bear either positive or negative charges, and the mass of the positively charged electron appears to be not far short of that of the chemical atom. That of the negative electron—or, as Prof. J. J. Thomson would call it, the "corpuscle"—has been more accurately estimated, and the last-named physicist has lately announced it to be $\frac{1}{1836}$ that of the hydrogen atom. But, as has been many times said of late in these columns—notably by M. H. Poincaré in *The Athenæum* of February 17th—all recent experiments go to prove that the negative electron has no real mass at all, but only a sort of inertia varying with its speed, and becoming almost infinite as this approaches that of light. If as much could be said for the positively charged electron, it would follow that all matter is composed of atoms of electricity and of nothing else, and that all physical phenomena are electrical in their nature. But Prof. Lorentz expressly warns us that this cannot yet be shown to be the case.

These considerations for the most part apply to what are called "free" electrons, or electrons disengaged from ponderable matter. It is true that the definition has only a relative meaning, because Prof. Lorentz, like most physicists, is of opinion that the electron could not exist in ether that was entirely disentangled from matter. As such conditions cannot be found in our world, it must be said that the experiments establishing the conclusions already noted were all made in vacua so exceedingly high that the quantity of air or other gas remaining therein was reduced to a minimum. The behaviour of electrons freed from matter is therefore still a question of deduction, but the case is different with those engaged therein, which Prof. Lorentz examines with closer attention than has yet been bestowed upon them. According to his theory, every charged body bears on its surface a thin layer of positive or negative electrons, which in time recombine with others of opposite sign, so that they lose all influence upon the field. In the case of a wire or other conductor through which a "current" or continually renewed charge is passing, we have a continuous movement of negative electrons towards one end. Is there a corresponding rush of positive electrons towards the other? The answer to this must be deferred till later; but it may be said that in making their way through the entangling masses of matter, even the negative electrons, tiny as they are, meet with considerable resistance, which gives rise, as in the familiar case of an incandescent electric lamp, to the phenomena of heat and light. As the resistance varies with the metal or other substance employed, a conductor may be described as a body in which the electrons move freely, and an insulator as one in which their path is more difficult.

Prof. Lorentz, however, like most thorough-going adherents of the electronic theory, thinks that the action of electrons in matter goes far beyond the explanation of merely electrical phenomena. That light is caused by electromagnetic radiations has already been said; but Prof. Lorentz goes a good deal further, and asserts that the electrons are thrown into vibration within the molecules of every ponderable body when struck by a ray of light. Moreover, he was able some years ago to deduce, without experi-

mental proof, that the vibrations caused in the electron by, for instance, a luminous gas, will be varied by a magnetic field, so as to cause the number of lines in its spectrum to be multiplied—a deduction which was afterwards abundantly verified by the experiments of Zeeman. If we add to this that the optical properties of metals can be shown to correspond to their electrical properties, so that the best conductors are the least transparent, we may say that light is in all things an electromagnetic phenomenon, and that optics are henceforth but a part of the science of electricity. Prof. Lorentz labours to show that the same thing may be said of heat, in which he has less difficulty, as radiant heat is now admitted to consist of vibrations in the ether, which only differ from light-rays by a shorter wave-length and some quality not yet explained. But he also demonstrates that the calorific properties of most substances correspond with their electrical properties, and find their only explanation in the electronic theory. Not only does he show that the electrical conductivity of a metal bears a certain ratio to its power of conducting heat, but he also explains that this is directly due to the movement of electrons within its molecules. By arguments drawn from the kinetic theory of gases, he proves that just as, in a vertical column of heated air, the upper levels at first show a higher temperature than the lower, because the molecules which first get there have the higher speed, but afterwards the temperature becomes equal throughout by the diffusion in the upper strata of the slower molecules; so, in a metal unequally heated, the electrons will penetrate the more quickly one layer after another as their course is the less hindered by collisions with each other and with the atoms between which they are imprisoned. Thus it is that he accounts for the difference in conductivity between (say) aluminium and platinum.

In the same way, the electronic theory enables us to account for various phenomena which hitherto have received very inadequate interpretation. If two bars of different metals, such as bismuth and antimony, are soldered together crosswise and a current passed through them, the point of junction is found to be cooled when the current goes from the bismuth to the antimony, and heated when its direction is reversed. Here, says Prof. Lorentz, before the current passes, there is an actual transfer of electrons from one metal to the other. So, too, if two parallel bars of the same metal have the corresponding ends of each kept at freezing-point and boiling-point respectively, and a current passed through both, one bar is found to be hotter than the other, and this varies with the different metals: e.g., in the case of copper the heat travels with, and in that of iron against, the current. In this case also Prof. Lorentz attributes the absorption or the emission of heat to a movement of electrons.

These instances have been given to show how dominant a position the electronic theory has attained in the whole realm of physics, and that it rests upon many solid facts and apparently unrelated phenomena even more than upon the speculations and conjectures of physicists. We hope to go further and point out the difficulties which preclude for the present its universal acceptance.

AMALGAMATION OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF LONDON.

SINCE the representative gathering of London medical men in the College of Physicians last summer to consider a pro-

posal for the amalgamation of all the central London medical societies into a Royal Academy or Society of Medicine, there has been a steady progress towards the realization of the idea. The meeting was convened by the President of the College of Physicians (Sir William Church), but the immediate justification for it was found in the cordiality with which the scheme was received when advocated by Sir R. Douglas Powell in his presidential address to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. The College of Physicians meeting, which was very largely attended, unanimously affirmed the principle of amalgamation, and an Advisory Committee and secretaries were appointed to approach the various societies—over twenty—and do all that they could to further the project.

A large number of the societies have now laid the matter officially before their members, and small sub-committees of those bodies have been appointed to represent their particular point of view to the Advisory Committee. For it must be remembered that many of the societies are "special," i.e., consist of members of the profession who chiefly study one particular subject or portion of the human organism—the eye, the nose and ear, the larynx, diseases of women, diseases of children, life assurance work, and anaesthetics. But there are also several "general" societies, such as the Medical Society of London (which is very large and the oldest of them all, having been founded in 1773), the Hunterian, and the Harveian, most of which were probably called into being because the weekly meetings of one society did not afford adequate opportunity to hear and discuss the contributions of the very numerous followers of the profession to be found in the metropolis.

The scheme provides for two classes of adherents: Fellows, paying a subscription of about three guineas per year, with the right to attend the meetings of all sections and to use the combined library; and Members of one particular section or speciality, with the use of the library, and subscribing about a guinea per annum.

The speeches at the meetings of the various societies have revealed anything but unanimity, and there are signs that several of the societies are awaiting the lead of the Medical Society of London, which, at a special meeting recently, agreed to the principle of amalgamation, but required an impartial investigation into the financial condition of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society before committing itself further, so that it still retains its right to negative the whole scheme. This was carried by a three-fourths majority, the dissentients apparently objecting to the proposal *in toto*. This was sustained at the subsequent confirmatory meeting.

A number of stipulations have been already put forward by the various bodies, and there is a very strong sentimental objection to merging the oldest medical society in London into a vast organization, with the surrender of many of those privileges, medical and social, which are features of its long history.

SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—June 6.—Mr. F. Merrifield, President, in the chair.—Mr. H. St. J. Donisthorpe exhibited specimens of *Lomechusa strumosa*, F., taken with *Formica sanguinea* at Woking on May 26th and 29th. Only two other British examples are known—one taken by Sir Hans Sloane on Hampstead Heath in 1710, the other found by Dr. Leach in the mail-coach between Gloucester and Cheltenham—and these are included in the British Museum collection.—Mr. H. J. Turner

showed a case containing a large number of the life-histories of Coleopterids, notes on which have appeared in the Society's *Proceedings* or in *The Entomological Record*.—Mr. A. H. Jones showed, on behalf of Mr. Henry Lupton, a few butterflies from Majorca, captured between April 8th and 20th. Only one moth was seen, *M. stellatarum*. So far under twenty species of butterflies have been recorded from the Balearic Islands.—Mr. Selwyn Image showed a specimen of *Crambus ericellus*, Hb., taken at Loughton, Essex, August 8th, 1899 (not previously recorded from further south than Cumberland); two specimens of *Nola confusalis*, H.S. ab. *columbina*, Image, taken in Epping Forest, May 5th, 1906; and a specimen of *Peronea cristana*, F., the ground colour of upper wings abnormally black, even more intensely black than in the ab. *nigra*, Clark, also from Epping Forest.—Mr. J. H. Keys sent for exhibition the type of *Spathorhamphus corsicus*, Marshall, from Vizzavona, Corsica. This fine Anthribid was supposed by some coleopterists to have been an accidental importation into the mountainous regions of the island, but is no doubt endemic.—Mr. G. C. Champion remarked that he had taken *Platyrhinus latirostris* in numbers in the beech and pine forests (*Pinus laricio*) along the line of railway, above the tunnel.—Dr. F. A. Dixey exhibited specimens of African Pierine found by Mr. C. A. Wiggins on February 2nd, 1906, settled on damp soil near the Ripon Falls, Victoria Nyanza, and caught, to the number of 153, at a single sweep of the net. Eight species were represented; the examples were all males, and, with one exception, belonged to the dry-season form of their respective species.—Prof. E. B. Poulton communicated some notes on Natal butterflies, which he had received from Mr. G. H. Burn, of Weenen, and exhibited the four individuals of *Eurania vahlbergi*, Wallgr., and *E. mima*, Trim., captured by Mr. G. A. K. Marshall near Malvern, Natal. He exhibited Mr. Marshall's latest demonstration of seasonal phases in South African species of the genus *Precis*, the proof by actual breeding that *P. tukwa*, Wallgr., is the dry-season phase of *P. ceryne*, Boisid.—Prof. Poulton further showed 325 butterflies captured in one day by Mr. C. B. Roberts, between the eighth and tenth mile from the Potaro River, British Guiana, and drew attention to the preponderance of males; also specimens of the beetle *Apteroda orbiculata*, Mar., and its mimic a little Hemipteron, *Haltica apteroda*, L., swept together in Stow Wood, Oxford; and of the beetle *Myrmedonia canaliculata*, F., and its mimic the ant *Myrmica rubra*, var. *rugoides*, Nyl., with a note on their respective association by Mr. W. Holland.—The following papers were read: 'Some Bionomic Notes on Butterflies from the Victoria Nyanza Region, with Exhibits from the Oxford University Museum, by Mr. S. A. Neave,'—'On the Habits of a Species of *Ptyelus* in British East Africa,' by Mr. S. L. Hinde, illustrated by drawings by Mrs. Hinde,—'Mimetic Forms of *Pupilio dardanus* (*nerope*) and *Acraea johnstoni* and 'Predaceous Insects and their Prey,' by Prof. E. B. Poulton,—and 'Studies on the Orthoptera in the Hope Department, Oxford University Museum: I. Blattidae,' and 'A Note on a Feeding Experiment on the Spider *Nephila maculata*,' by Mr. R. Shelford.

METEOROLOGICAL.—June 20.—Mr. Richard Bentley, President, in the chair.—Mr. F. J. Brodie read a paper on 'The Mean Prevalence of Thunderstorms in Various Parts of the British Islands during the Twenty-five Years 1881-1905.' The author gives the mean number of days on which thunderstorms, or thunder only, occurred in each month, each season, and in each year at fifty-three stations situated in various parts of the United Kingdom. July is the month with the largest number of thunderstorms over Great Britain as a whole, and August at some places in the north of Scotland and north-west of England; while June is the stormiest month at nearly all the Irish stations. For the whole year the largest number of thunderstorms is over the northern and eastern parts of England, where more than fifteen occur, while there are under five in the west and south of Ireland and at most places in the north of Scotland. The summer distribution of thunderstorms is similar to the annual distribution, while the winter distribution is very different, for then the largest numbers occur along the west coasts of Ireland and Scotland and the extreme south-west of England.—

Mr. W. H. Dines communicated a paper on a 'Typical Squall at Oxshott, May 25, 1906.' During the morning there was a steady wind from the south-west of over 10 miles per hour until 11 A.M., when there was some falling off for fifteen minutes; then a rise to over 20 miles per hour, accompanied by a sudden increase of barometric pressure and a fall of a few hundredths of an inch of rain. After the squall the wind dropped suddenly and there was almost a dead calm for about twenty minutes. The author, who was flying a kite at the time, gave some account of the changes in the wind at a considerable altitude above the earth. At 11h. 26m. the squall struck the kite, which was then at a height of 8,400 ft. Two minutes later the velocity at the kite had risen to 58 miles per hour, and the wire broke under a strain of 180 lb. Three minutes later the kite fell at a spot $\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant from Oxshott.

HISTORICAL.—June 14.—Rev. Dr. W. Hunt, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Fellows: R. S. Rait, Arnold de Lisle, W. A. Parker Mason, and Miss M. B. Syngé.—Miss R. R. Reid read the paper which obtained the Alexander Prize Medal, 1905-6, on 'The Rising of the Earls, 1569.'—Mr. James Gairdner, Mr. Secombe, Mr. Hall, Miss Leonard, and the President took part in the brief discussion upon the paper, which treated of the social and political as well as of the religious causes which underlay the rising. Miss Leonard further emphasized the social discontents; and the President pointed out that the queen's action was a necessary step in completing the work of her father in destroying the remains of feudal independence in the North.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—June 13.—Prof. Sayce read a paper on the "Chedor-laomer Tablets" discovered by Dr. Pinches eleven years ago. He said that the progress of Assyriology has rendered it possible to revise the translations then given of them and to restore many of the mutilated passages. A recent discovery made by him has proved that Dr. Pinches was right in identifying the King of Elam mentioned in them with Chedor-laomer, the true reading of the cuneiform signs composing the name being now ascertained. He gave a corrected translation of the texts, with notes and addenda, and pointed out that they constitute a trilogy put together out of other materials in the Persian period. In the first part of the trilogy the conquest of Babylon and the destruction of its temple are ascribed to the unrepented sins of the people and the anger of Bel-Merodach, with a side reference to its later conquest by Cyrus; in the second part a Messiah is promised who had been predestined "from days everlasting," and who shall "destroy the wicked ones"; while the third part describes the punishment which fell on Chedor-laomer and his allies, and concludes with the declaration that "the sinner shall be rooted out." The poems are unique in Babylonian literature in mentioning "the Accuser," who plays the part of Satan in the book of Job, and in using the plural "gods" as a singular. By combining the references contained in them with a passage in the standard Babylonian work on astronomy it is found that Tudghula, or Tid'al, was king of the Manda, or "Nations," and that it was with their help that Kudur-Laghghamar succeeded in conquering Babylonia. It would further appear that the conquest took place when Khammurabi of Babylon was still a boy, that the Elamite suzerainty in Babylonia lasted thirty years, and that the mother of Eri-Aku, or Arisch, was a sister of the Elamite king.

MATHEMATICAL.—June 14.—Prof. A. R. Forsyth, President, in the chair.—Mr. W. H. Jackson was admitted into the Society.—Mr. Walter Bailey exhibited a collection of models of space-filling solids.—The following papers were communicated: 'The Algebra of Apolar Linear Complexes,' by Dr. H. F. Baker,—'Supplementary Note on the Representation of certain Asymptotic Series as Convergent Continued Fractions,' by Prof. L. J. Rogers,—and 'On certain Special Types of Convertible Matrices,' by Mr. J. Brill.

PHYSICAL.—June 8.—Prof. J. Perry, President, in the chair.—A paper by Mr. H. Davies, 'On the

Solution of Problems in Diffraction by the Aid of Contour Integration,' was read by the Secretary.—Mr. J. Gould's experiments with a vibrating steel plate were exhibited by Messrs. Newton & Co.—A paper on 'Fluid Resistance' was read by Col. R. de Villamil.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- Mon. Jewish Historical, 8.30.—'The Return of the Jews to England, Sir Isidore Spielmann; 'The Crawford Hagadah,' Mr. I. Abraham; 'Some Members of the Whitehall Conference,' Mr. I. Solomon; and other papers.
Wed. British Numismatic, 8.—'A Find of Ancient British Coins at South Ferris, near Barton-on-Humber,' Mr. B. Roth.
— Geological, 9.—'Interference-Phenomena in the Alps,' Mrs. M. M. Ogilvie Gordon; 'The Influence of Pressure and Porosity on the Motion of Sub-Surface Water,' Mr. W. R. Baldwin-Wiseman.
Thurs. Royal, 4.30.
— Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.

Science Gossip.

A new lectureship, to be called the George Combe Lectureship on General and Experimental Psychology, has been established in the University of Edinburgh. The salary is 300l. a year.

RECENT Parliamentary Papers include Part I. of the Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland (1s. 9d.); and Report of Delegates to the International Congress on Tuberculosis, held at Paris October, 1905 (2d.).

HARVARD COLLEGE CIRCULAR No. 115 announces the variability of no fewer than twenty-two stars in the constellation Carina, discovered by Miss Leavitt's examination of six plates taken with the Bruce telescope. One of these is of the Algol type, and a number of observations of its magnitude when near minimum (about 12½ magnitude) are given. Circular No. 117 announces a star of that type in the constellation Sagittarius, detected by Mrs. Fleming on a comparison of several plates. It varies about a magnitude in a period of little more than two days, the minimum being about 9½. Madame Ceraski, in the course of her examination of plates taken by M. Blajko at the Moscow Observatory, has noticed a new variable in the constellation Draco. When brightest, this star is of about 9.7 magnitude; when faintest, it appears to be below 12½. Its situation is a little to the west of 7 Draconis, and about 3 degrees to the north of 76 Ursæ Majoris; its designation will be var. 54, 1906, Draconis.

FINE ARTS

THE PRESERVATION OF THE CAIRO MONUMENTS.

Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art arabe. Procès-verbaux, Rapports, Appendices. Fasc. XIX., XX., XXI. 18 plates. (Cairo, Imprimerie de l'Institut français.)

Mémoires de la Mission archéologique française au Caire.—XIX. Fasc. IV. Matériaux pour un Corpus Inscriptionum Arabicarum. Par Max van Berchem.—Le Caire. Fin, Appendice, Index général. (Paris, Leroux.)

THE Commission for the Preservation of the Monuments of Arab Art has so completely mastered its business, and its reports show such a mass of detailed work carefully and methodically organized, that an annual review of its proceedings becomes almost monotonous. It is a form of monotony, however, that implies commendation. We have little but praise

to award to the labours of the Commission as set forth in its last three reports. If we are inclined to agree with Mr. Somers Clarke that it would be advantageous to issue these reports more expeditiously, we are also aware that the bureau is already overwhelmed with work, and it is not easy to get the reports out as quickly as all would desire. Mr. Somers Clarke wishes that the honorary members, such as himself, could receive the *procès-verbaux* in time to communicate their views as to important decisions before these are irrevocably carried into effect. The immediate cause of his suggestion—it might be termed a protest—was the removal of the graceful *hanafiyyeh*, or fountain for Hanafi ablutions, from the mosque of Sultan Hasan to that of el-Mâridânî. This removal was apparently decreed and carried out before the opinions of the honorary members in Europe could be laid before the Commission. There is no doubt that the step is open to criticism, for although the fountain does not belong to the foundation of the first-named mosque, the history of a monument is revealed by its later accretions as well as by its original structure, and in such cases it seems advisable to take the views of the European experts in Saracenic art as well as those of the sitting Commission, even though this comprises such well-known authorities as Yakub Artin Pasha, Franz Pasha, Herz Bey, and M. Casanova. It should not be difficult to send prompt transcripts of the *procès-verbaux* to the honorary and corresponding members, seeing that these number only eight—Adler, Lane-Poole, Baudry, Grand, Zalusky, Somers Clarke, Rhoné, and Van Berchem.

The finances of the Commission have been of late unusually flourishing. The Caisse de la Dette continues its wise policy of making very substantial grants, in pursuance of the advice given by Lord Cromer in 1896, which resulted in the unprecedented grant of 20,000*l.* Since then the Caisse has voted 10,500*l.* This is apart from the ordinary annual income of the Commission, about 8,000*l.*, of which the Wakfs Administration contributes half. As a result of an improved revenue the Commission has been enabled to devote some 7,000*l.* to the much-needed preservation of the great mosque of Sultan Hasan, for which Herz Bey pleaded in his superbly illustrated monograph. It has also taken in hand the beautiful tomb-mosque of Kalaûn, the mosque of Aksunkur, the exquisite tomb of Kâit Bey in the Karâfah, and many others; whilst the long-standing work on the mosque of el-Mâridânî has been completed. It is especially to be noted that all restorations are duly distinguished by Arabic inscriptions giving the date of each separate part of the restoration, and these inscriptions are recorded in the annual reports. Such distinguishing marks were strongly recommended in Lord Cromer's Report to Parliament in 1896, and there can be no question as to their necessity. Another recommendation has been continuously acted upon, namely, the expropriation and removal of the shops and

débris that disfigure, and often seriously injure, many of the mosque façades. These are gradually disappearing by the action of the Commission, especially in the Ghûriyyeh and Nahhâsin. The Commission is also vigilant in resisting any encroachments by shopkeepers or private citizens on the area of the monuments: many instances occur in the reports, though it is extremely difficult to keep an eye upon all the hundreds of buildings classified as artistic remains, and it is not surprising that now and then an act of vandalism should be successful.

The Appendixes to the reports are always interesting, and we are glad to read that the tomb and medreseh of es-Sâlih Ayyûb, the opponent of St. Louis, have been made the subject of special investigation, and that the clearing away of the *décombres*, &c., which masked these important monuments has resulted in the uncovering of some fresh details. It is deeply to be regretted that a careful excavation has not revealed any further remains of the Kâmilîyyeh College, which, according to the sketches of James Wild, the architect, and sometime curator of the Soane Museum, was in a fair state of preservation about sixty years ago. It would be interesting, by the way, to learn where Wild's sketch-books are now. They were full of elevations and plans of numerous monuments in Cairo, many of which have suffered partial or perhaps complete destruction since the drawings were made. Other appendixes, compiled by Herz Bey, relate to mosques at Mahallah el-Kubra and at Ikhmîm, and to the so-called "Roman" tower at Alexandria, showing that the Commission does not restrict its surveillance to Cairo monuments alone. It is also satisfactory to see that considerable sums have been expended upon the upkeep and repair of the splendid gates of Cairo and the old walls, as well as upon the well-known Roman fortress of Babylon. The work of restoration among the Coptic buildings, however, proceeds somewhat slowly, partly owing to the small contribution made by the Patriarch (we believe only 200*l.* a year) to the restoration fund. Some two thousand pounds, nevertheless, have been well spent upon Deyr el-Adra, Abu-s-Seyfeyn, and Deyr el-Benât. It is to be hoped that the jealous attention which the Commission has long directed to the tract of 'Eyn es-Sira may be followed by excavations, which should lead to discoveries in connexion with the older Arab capitals. We note that as much as 800*l.* was paid for an enamelled glass lamp of the emir Almâs (fourteenth century) for the Museum of Arab Art.

For the history of the monuments over which the Commission and its Chief Architect watch with such admirable energy and discretion no more valuable work exists than the learned and comprehensive 'Corpus Inscriptionum Arabicarum,' which M. Max van Berchem has completed (so far as Cairo is concerned) by the publication of a fourth part, treating of the 'Othmânî inscriptions and of the inscriptions preserved in the Cairo Museum, many of which are of great

interest. But the grand feature of this final fasciculus is an elaborate index, comprising 50,000 references, and including the Arabic names, titles, and words (except mere particles and the like) occurring in all the inscriptions in the 'Corpus.' The names and words are given in italic and roman (not Arabic) letters, and the system of reference is most carefully and methodically compressed. The labour of compiling so vast and detailed an index must have been immense, and we are not surprised to read that the author was engaged upon it for two years. Its utility to the student of the Arabic monuments and of the history of Egypt under Mohammedan rule is simply incalculable, and M. van Berchem has rendered a very notable service to Oriental historians and epigraphists by this eminently practical conclusion to a work of rare scholarship and persevering labour.

We must not omit to refer to his appendix, containing some important Arabic inscriptions from various parts of Egypt; an elaborate discussion of the inscription of Bedr el-Gemâlî on the (vanished) Mosque of the Perfumers at Alexandria (on which the learned author differs, rightly, from Amari's reading); a very curious inscription of the Fâtimid caliph el-Amir at Damietta, which gives occasion to M. van Berchem for an interesting examination of the Nizârian pretension; and (to name no more) the inscription of Saladin on the Citadel of Cairo which was copied by Lane eighty years ago, but has since disappeared. It was published in English by Prof. Lane-Poole in *The Athenæum*, but now appears for the first time in the Arabic text, with a few verbal emendations which are undoubtedly correct. M. van Berchem is evidently a careful reader of our columns, and we observe that he has adopted our orthography of the name of the queen Sheger-ed-durr ("Chadjar ad-durr"), instead of the vulgar form Shegeret, which we regret to notice that the Cairo Commission retains. With regard to our criticism (*Athenæum*, No. 3757, p. 591) of his view that the titles with *ed-dunyî wa-d-dîn* are necessarily sovereign titles, M. van Berchem argues that though we were right on the numismatic evidence (where the admitted sovereignty implied in the right of *sikkeh* rendered the double title less necessary), the evidence of inscriptions and protocols confirms his opinion; but the exceptions he notes prove that this statement is not absolute before the period of the Mamlûks. With this reservation there is little difference between us, and M. van Berchem is doubtless justified in his distinction between coins and inscriptions in point of authority on questions of titles.

AMERICANS are paying increased attention to τὰ πρὶν πελώρια in the culmination of their commercial success; and every year one finds fresh evidences of it. They are taking up culture of the older world, and with an enthusiasm which makes for accomplishment. Old furniture, old gardens,

old pictures, old books—all old things are becoming dear to them, in two senses. Among other things they are engrossed in old fashions, as several excellent books testify. There was Mrs. Morse Earle's 'Two Centuries of Costume in America,' and here is a rival, *Historic Dress, 1607 to 1800* (Lane), by Mrs. McClellan, which is even more elaborate than its predecessor. If we remember rightly, this sumptuous volume was issued in the United States a year or two ago. It has the distinction of being admirably illustrated in colour, pen and ink, and wash drawings by Miss Sophie Steel, to whom much credit is due for her accuracy and patience. The wash pages are the most effective, and catch the eye at a glance, enabling the reader to follow the changing course of fashion quite easily, as it varied from simplicity to over-elaboration, and back again to simplicity. It is odd that a portion of the eighteenth century which produced the best specimens of domestic architecture and furniture should have been characterized by such abominable taste in dress; and just as the mode was marching towards the close of the century, moving in the direction of chaster outlines, the vulgarities of the Empire rococo were threatened. On the whole, American dress kept pace with the European exemplars, but the fashions lingered longer in remoter places. One gathers from these pages that in many cases old robes have been carefully and piously preserved in American families, and here adorn the bodies of fair descendants. Thus also is connexion made with the historic past.

DECORATIVE PANELS AT THE ALPINE CLUB.

HOLDING, as we do, that a revival of decorative painting is of the first importance in the interests of living art, we welcome any attempt in this direction. The patron who wisely commissions, the artist who successfully executes, a suite of decorations have, other things being equal, done more usefully than they would have done by a corresponding generosity in the buying, and activity in the production, of easel pictures. Even failure in such a desirable effort has its merit, and in this case neither patron nor artist has entirely failed. The pictures hang together harmoniously in schemes, judiciously varied, but of homogeneous colour, and Mr. Kerr Lawson has the technique of a decorator. We see such work less frequently here than in the Paris Salons, where we constantly come on large landscapes by men manifestly capable of the orderly dividing-up of the process of painting a picture into so many different sections that shall enforce, but not obliterate each other, and leave the entire work a single unbroken movement, yet men as manifestly destitute of the power of imaginative design which is the other half of the decorator's equipment—destitute also of the fine instinct for the delicacies of colour relation that is his crown and final justification.

The colour instinct, ill regulated perhaps, is so much commoner in England than in France that its absence in a man with the painter's competence of Mr. Kerr Lawson, comes as something of a shock. Without being actively objectionable, he is definitely a bad colourist. On the other hand, if these panels are not first-rate designs, some of the blame is due to the patron for imposing such impracticable subjects as these purely architectural street scenes, in which a multitude of rectilinear details must be a trifle unmanageable. Yet though the collec-

tion is somewhat unsympathetic, we should like to see some of our more naturally gifted and impulsive colourists strengthening themselves by so sound and utilitarian a method. They are usually discouraged from so doing on the ground of "the impossibility of reconciling opposing virtues"; but as a matter of fact every painter of any stature has grown to that stature by thus combining many elements into one richly varied talent, and one of the reasons that keep modern painters small is the coddling that shelters them from the wind of criticism on the side on which they are temperamentally weak, and thus deprives them of a useful stimulus to all-round development.

YOUNGER PAINTERS AT THE BAILLIE GALLERY.

MR. FERGUSSON has a small show in this Baker Street gallery which displays a one-sided talent. His work rises in one or two of these little pictures to an unusual pitch of excellence, but is identical in aim with that of a large proportion of the last generation of painters, whose efforts have on the whole been very disappointing in result. After the manner of Whistler and in the short, detached sentences that recall his style, Mr. Fergusson in the Catalogue sets forth their position with admirable brevity, and something of Whistler's specious art of stating what is generally considered an incontrovertible fact in such a manner as to imply something very disputable.

"To the realist in painting, light is the mystery: for form and colour, which are the painter's only way of representing life, exist only on account of light. The only hope of giving the impression of reality is by truthful lighting." Here is an example of a conclusion not indisputable, for all its apparent simplicity: we are not obliged to paint literally, to produce nature's impression of reality in nature's way. Much more damaging, however, is the assumption to which the painter in practice proceeds, that truthful lighting is therefore the only business of art (as though, forsooth, "reality" were its only aim)—an assumption expressed, indeed, in the next sentence, where we are told that "the painter, having found the beauty of nature, ceases to be interested in the beauty of art"—which is true in the present instance, but, we submit, regrettable.

For in what does this traditional beauty of art consist but in paying nature the compliment of a truer imitation? Seeing that in nature there is no such thing as repetition, but everything is uniquely fitted for its place, the artist tries to find for painting its place in the scheme, to endow it with the qualities most fitted for its permanent nature, its decorative function as part of an interior—qualities fundamentally different from those we accept as beautiful in the fleeting vision of a moment, to be read each as one of an infinite chain of visions where beauty consists of evanescence. To describe the achievements in this task of the great masters as a "piecing together of different impressions" is not happy, and, indeed, Mr. Fergusson seems to regard each "impression" and emotion as a thing very single in itself, and marked definitely off from its successor, as though he had exchanged for the snap of the cinematograph the calm continuity of eye and brain.

We have examined seriously, because it represents a typical position that still persists and gains converts, this prologue explanatory of the artist's intention, which, as he truly says, must be understood by those who would estimate his achievement.

We believe it to be an honest explanation, but of an intention that is harmful and not calculated to lead to the best results. With this proviso there are a few of Mr. Fergusson's studies that reach a high level of excellence. He renders with great poignancy the atmosphere of that most melancholy place, a fashionable French bathing station—the tiring brilliance that sun and sand and sky alike reflect, and that the chalets are too flimsy to keep out, the white nights that scarcely heal the ache of the dazzling days; so impregnated is every object with light that even at night it gives off a level, shadowless radiance. Even by moonlight the raw chalky white of the stucco vases along the "front" will remain harsh, while it is subtle, and in this contradiction is the pictorial quality of these places, which the artist has occasionally seized by a stroke of magic, extenuating nothing of the crudity, wringing, indeed, out of it a super-subtlety of tone. His *Aberdour Pier, Paris Plage from the Sea, A Cloudy Sky, Villa Stella Maris, and The Bathing Hour, Paris Plage*, are so many poems by a true lover who has felt the pathos of these husks of gaiety, without weight, without inside, like the shells of sea creatures we see flung on the shore, bleached and dried by the sun into dazlingly useless emblems of white fragility.

This is Mr. Fergusson's note, and this apart (though elsewhere he has shown still life of some power), he exhibits here a tendency to produce pictures that might reasonably be stigmatized as daubs. We earnestly trust that a painter of such native gifts will consent to revise his "intentions."

Downstairs is a painter of more academic cut, who would never consent to Mr. Fergusson's propositions. Mr. Philpot's best picture, the *Lady with a Letter*, is in its successful part frankly conventional and generalized. He seems to have had a difficulty with the face, which is treated in more realistic fashion and not quite successfully. Elsewhere the influence of Mr. Charles Shannon is a little disquieting in a painter so young as almost to be liable to exploitation for prodigious infancy. So much technical fluency achieved so soon threatens shallowness. Some charming dry-points show him at his lightsome best.

Another student showing possibilities is Mr. Louis Sargent, who has some graceful projects in pastel. *The Infant Dionysus* is perhaps the best. He has not, we think, advanced too far to consider the advisability of adopting a *nom de guerre* that might spare him some of the annoyance attendant on wearing his own.

THE AGNEW AND OTHER SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE'S sale last Saturday chiefly consisted of the collection of modern pictures and water-colour drawings formed by the late Mr. Thomas Agnew, of Fairhope, Eccles, near Manchester, a former partner in the fine-art firm of Thomas Agnew & Sons. This collection was bequeathed by Mr. Agnew, who died upwards of thirty years ago, to his widow, whose death a few months since has been followed by the present dispersal. The greater portion of the pictures were purchased by the firm of Messrs. Agnew, in some cases for the various members of the family. Most of the artists represented in the sale have had their day; they were for the most part at the height of their popularity when Mr. Agnew formed his collection, so that on Saturday there were a few considerable "drops" in price. In some few instances, however, the prices realized were in advance of those at which the works were acquired. The total of 10,727l. 17s. for 122 lots was considerably higher than had been anticipated.

There were only two pictures of the Early English School, and both were catalogued as by

Sir Joshua Reynolds. The more important was a charming portrait of a young boy in white dress, his hands joined before him, in a landscape background, a composition very like Reynolds's portrait of Master Philip Yorke (afterwards Viscount Royston), painted in 1787. This picture was always regarded as the work of Gainsborough, under whose name, and with the title of 'Innocence,' it was sold for 300gs. at the Agnew sale of 1871. Its similarity to Reynolds's portrait of Master Philip Yorke led to its being attributed to that artist, but excellent judges now regard it as the work of Sir William Beechey, whose copies of Reynolds are known to have surprised the great President himself by their extraordinary exactitude. On Saturday this picture realized 630gs. The second Reynolds was a picture of the two Miss Paines, daughters of James Paine the architect, the elder girl in white-and-blue dress, and the younger in pink dress. This is an early Reynolds, painted in 1757, and was the property of Mr. John Craven in 1863, when the sitters were described as the Ladies de Grey and Grantham. In July, 1865, it realized 95gs. at Foster's; in March, 1872, it brought 115gs. at Christie's, and a year later advanced to 210gs.; on Saturday it fetched 440gs. It was engraved in 1866 by R. B. Parkes.

The other pictures were: R. Andsell, Gathering the Flock, 155gs.; Lytham Sandhills, 310gs. Rosa Bonheur, Sheep by the Seashore, 510gs. E. W. Cooke, Danish Craft on the Elbe, off Blankenese, low water, 140gs. D. Cox, Wind, Rain, and Sunshine, Lytham Sands, 220gs. W. P. Frith, Hogarth brought before the Governor of Calais as a Spy, 310gs. (this realized 1,000gs. at the Brooks sale in 1879). P. Graham, Waves breaking over Rocks, 150gs. F. Hall, Gone, 370gs.; Faces in the Fire, 135gs. (in Topham sale 1878 it fetched 100gs.). J. C. Hook, Fisher-Girls Gathering Mussels, 220gs. J. Linnell, sen., The Storm, 720gs. (at the Fenton sale, 1879, 510gs.). J. Constable, River Scene, with cottages, bridge, and boats, 260gs. J. N. Sartorius, In Full Cry, 200gs. E. van Marcke, Two Cows standing in a Pool of Water, a Third Cow lying down, 505gs.

The drawings included: G. Barret, River Scene, with a tree and church spire, 80gs. D. Cox, Rocky Landscape, with a cottage and two figures, 60gs.; On the Beach, Rhyl, 160gs.; Woody Landscape, harvest time, 115gs.; Walton Abbey, on the Thames, 65gs.; Returning from Market, 65gs. P. De Wint, Bolton Abbey, 75gs.; Landscape, with a windmill and figures, 135gs.; River Scene, with a pleasure barge and punt, 120gs.; Woody Landscape, 52gs. G. Chambers, Sailing-Boat in a Breeze, 60gs. C. Fielding, Landscape, with figures and cattle near a river, 58gs.; Mountainous Landscape, with cattle on a road, 100gs. A. C. Gow, Figures on a Road, a church in the distance, 52gs. W. Hunt, Grace before Meat, 200gs. (from the Baron Grant sale of 1877, when it brought 370gs.). Sir F. Powell, Nearing Port, 62gs.; Early Morning on Loch Fyne, 62gs. S. Prout, The Arcade of the Rialto, 95gs. F. Taylor, The Coverley Hunt, 48gs. Turner, Colchester, engraved in the 'England and Wales' series, 500gs.; Ashby de la Zouche, engraved in the same series, 520gs. (from the Novar sale of 1878, when it realized 500gs.); River and Bridge, with cows, 75gs.

The second portion of the sale consisted of pictures and drawings, the property of the late Mr. G. K. Harrison, the late Mr. G. H. Tod-Healy, and others. The pictures included: Sir L. Alma Tadema, A Safe Confidant, on panel, 220gs. H. Fantin-Latour, Flowers in a Bowl, 350gs.; Basket of Grapes and a Pomegranate, 160gs. J. B. C. Corot, Near Ville d'Avray, 650gs. F. Goodall, The Post Office, 132gs. B. W. Leader, Llynwellyn, 130gs. J. MacWhirter, A Silver Gleam, 130gs. L. J. Pott, The Cardinal's Lecture, 145gs. E. M. Wimperis, Gathering Seaweed, 150gs. J. Zoffany, Suetonius Grant, elder brother of Patrick Healy, and his youngest sister Temperance Green, 260gs. Drawings by T. S. Cooper, Canterbury Meadows, 90gs.; Morning, 105gs.

The total of the day's sale of 155 lots amounted to 14,243l. 15s. 6d.

Fine Art Gossip.

YESTERDAY we were invited to view at the new Dudley Gallery sketches made by

the late Charles Wirgman during a residence of twenty-five years in Japan and journeys in Formosa, Manilla, and China; also water-colours of Morocco, &c., by Mr. T. B. Wirgman.

TO-DAY is the private view at the Doré Gallery of Mr. F. C. Gould's *Westminster* cartoons of political events of the last twelve months, and at the Modern Gallery of Major E. L. Engleheart's water-colour sketches of Arab life in Biskra and the surrounding country.

At the gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours oil paintings and water-colours of England and Holland, by Evert Moll, are now on view.

At Walker's Gallery till the 30th inst. there is open an interesting show of water-colours and pencil and charcoal sketches by David Cox, Cotman, Varley, and others.

MR. A. BAIRD-CARTER is showing water-colours by Mr. Archibald Thorburn at 70, Jernyn Street.

MESSRS. KNOEDLER & Co. have on view at their galleries in Old Bond Street modern Dutch paintings.

M. FERNAND DESMOULIN is showing oil pictures at 223A, Regent Street, 'Impressions de la Côte d'azur.'

WE referred last week in our sale notes to Eugène Carrière and the dispersal of his remaining works. We now hear from Paris that in October next a selection of his contributions on art will be published under the title of 'Reliquie.' This work will be edited by M. Devolvé, professor at the Lycée Turgot, and son-in-law of Carrière.

MR. WERNER LAURIE is shortly publishing in his 'Cathedral Series' the third volume on England and Wales by Mr. T. Francis Bumpus. This volume completes the British set. Mr. Bumpus is at present in Italy, preparing a volume on Italian cathedrals for the series.

MUSIC

Musical Gossip.

ON Friday last week Massenet's 'Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame' was performed for the first time at Covent Garden. Since its production at Monte Carlo in 1902 the work has been given at the Paris Opéra Comique repeatedly, and one of those performances was noticed at some length in *The Athenæum* of February 18th, 1905. There is therefore no need to say anything now about the excellent text; and we only remark that a second hearing fully confirms our first opinion that the music displays rare skill, refinement, and simplicity. The work was announced last week as an "opera," whereas it is simply styled a "Miracle" by the composer. The former term is certainly misleading: it is a music drama on a small scale, with a quaint story and a solemn ending. The performance was admirable. The singing of M. Lafitte was occasionally too penetrating, but his impersonation of the Jongleur deserves all praise. M. Seveilhac and M. Gilibert were thoroughly well suited in the parts of the Prior and Boniface. The piece was well staged.

THE programme of the final Philharmonic Concert of the present season, which took place on Thursday in last week, included two novelties. Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's 'Orchestral Variations on a Negro Theme' are clever, but the variation form requires something more if its mechanical side is not to be unduly felt, viz., strong inspiration;

and this we do not find in the music. Mr. Josef Holbrooke's setting of Edgar Poe's 'Annabel Lee,' for baritone solo (Mr. Kennerley Rumford) and orchestra is an interesting study in colour and even atmosphere, but there are discordant effects in it which ill suit the simple poem. M. Raoul Pugno, the pianist, played the Rachmaninoff Concerto in c minor with marked success. The dates of the concerts next year are announced as follows: February 28th, March 13th, April 17th, May 2nd, 16th, and 30th, and June 13th.

THREE well-known pianists have given recitals during the past week. Last Saturday at Queen's Hall Mr. Mark Hambourg's reading of Bach's 'Italian' Concerto, with the exception of the middle movement, was lacking in sympathy; but that of Beethoven's Sonata in c sharp minor was poetical. The special interest of the programme centred in the Variations of Mr. Benjamin J. Dale, which won the prize offered by Mr. Hambourg for the best piece of a "virtuoso" order. The music is clever, and the interpreter, by his great command of the keyboard, added to its natural lustre.

WE heard the latter part of M. Vladimir de Pachmann's programme at Bechstein Hall on the same afternoon. He had just finished playing Weber's 'Invitation à la Valse,' arranged by Henselt, having previously explained to his audience why he did not accept all Henselt's additions, "some being not nice, others unnecessary." Instead of a criticism of a mere arrangement, it would have been far more interesting to know how the pianist could justify the additions afterwards made by him to Chopin's music. His playing, as usual, was very fine.

SIGNOR BUSONI's programme on Monday afternoon began with Beethoven's Sonata in B flat, Op. 106, of which he gave a masterly rendering. The pace at which he took the fugue was tremendous, but, though it was wonderful playing, the pianist could not prevent the Finale sounding dry. Two transcriptions by Liszt of songs by Beethoven, and of a march from the 'Ruins of Athens,' proved poor and at times vulgar specimens of Liszt as a transcriber, so that all Signor Busoni's clever playing was wasted. Why perform such stuff when there is so much interesting pianoforte music unduly neglected?

Two performances of John Barnett's 'The Mountain Sylph' will be given by the students of the Guildhall School of Music on July 4th and 5th. This opera, which was for a long time popular, was produced at the Lyceum on August 25th, 1834, and in the notice in *The Athenæum* of August 30th it was described as an opera "of English growth and English manufacture, which may take its stand by the proudest of modern foreign operas." Although seventy-two years have passed since the work was first given, one member of the original cast is still living: Clara Novello, who, after a brilliant career, withdrew from public life in 1860.

OUR readers may like to know that Mr. Nutt is the English agent for the 'Peasant Songs of Great Russia,' noticed in our last issue.

DR. A. C. KALISCHER, of Berlin, has found forty-eight autograph letters of Beethoven in the collection belonging to Herr Karl Meinert, fourteen of which have hitherto been unpublished. They have appeared, by permission of the owner, in a recent part of *Die Musik*, and with explanatory notes by Dr. Kalischer. Of the fourteen, four are addressed to Breitkopf & Härtel; two to Herr Schlesinger; one to Tobias Haslinger in the joking style of

the letter to the same in Nohl's 'Neue Beethoven Briefe'; two to M. de Bigot, to whose wife Beethoven gave the autograph of his so-called 'Appassionata' Sonata; one to Giannatasio del Rio, the principal of the educational establishment in which Beethoven placed his nephew, &c. All the letters are certainly interesting, though none can be considered of prime importance.

The five competitors for the Prix de Rome, MM. Marsick, André Gaillard, Le Boucher, Mazelier, and Dumas, have been released from the Château de Compiègne, and their cantatas will be performed before the musical section of the Académie des Beaux-Arts next Friday, and again on the following day before a full sitting of that body, after which the winner of the prize will be declared.

A MONUMENT has been erected at Paris, in the Lamartine Square, Passy, to the memory of Benjamin Godard, composer of 'Le Tasse,' who died in 1895 at the early age of forty-six.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK

SUN.	Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	— 8.15, Royal Opera, Covent Garden.
TUE.	— London Symphony Orchestra, 3, Queen's Hall.
—	— Mr. Ernest Hutcheson's Pianoforte Recital, 3.30, Eolian Hall.
—	— Master Lionel Overman's Orchestral Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
—	— Handel Festival, 'The Messiah,' 2, Crystal Palace.
—	— Herr Louis Abbiati's Cello Recital, 3, Eolian Hall.
—	— Prof. Hilfr's Violin Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	— Miss Elsie Southgate's Orchestral Concert, 8, Eolian Hall.
—	— Vienna Philharmonic Society, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
—	— M. Maurel's Song Recital, 8.45, Bechstein Hall.
WED.	— London Trio, 3, Eolian Hall.
—	— Madame Whistler Miesick's Vocal Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	— British Canadian Festival, 8, Queen's Hall.
—	— Serick Quartet, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
THURS.	— Handel Festival, Selections, 2, Crystal Palace.
—	— Mr. Cecil Sharp's Concert Lecture, 3, Eolian Hall.
—	— Mr. Fritz Heald's Pianoforte Recital, 3.15, Steinway Hall.
—	— Madame Winna's Vocal Recital, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.
—	— Miss Marguerite Valentine's Concert, 8, Bechstein Hall.
—	— Vienna Philharmonic Society, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
FRI.	— Miss Vivien Charles's Violin Recital, 3, Queen's Hall.
—	— Mr. John Costes's Song Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.
—	— Mr. Henry Bramson's Cello Recital, 3.30, Eolian Hall.
SAT.	— Vienna Philharmonic Society, 12, Albert Hall.
—	— Handel Festival, 'Judas Maccabæus,' 2, Crystal Palace.
—	— Dr. Ludwig Wüllner's Song Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

CRITERION.—*The Macleans of Bairness: a Romantic Play in Four Acts.* By Edith Lyttelton.

A CERTAIN amount of dramatic intention is all with which Mrs. Lyttelton's romantic play 'The Macleans of Bairness' can be credited. This is not wrought out, the execution of the whole being conventional, and to a certain extent inept, and the characterization arbitrary. The action passes in the castle of Bairness, the home of a Highland clan, the Macleans, the head of which, Sir Alan, is a Hanoverian, while the remainder, including his aunt Miss Grisell Cochrane, is Jacobite, and apparently, since a priest is retained on the establishment, Catholic. An inmate in the castle of mixed Scottish and Italian blood is Margaretta Sinclair, a comely woman with whom Sir Alan is in love. An invalid on the point of death, he seeks by a marriage with her to guarantee her future. So ill is he that opposition to this eminently altruistic desire will be fatal. Reluctantly, then, since she has "a past," but moved thereto by Sir Alan's aunt, by his medical man (a Scottish Whig), and by the Catholic priest, Margaretta consents to his wishes, and the first act ends with a marriage between her and the moribund baronet. Being conceded thus his wishes, Sir Alan, though strangely moved by the

refusal by his wife of nuptial privileges, does not die, but attends to his duties as head of his clan. These include, since the period is that following the rout at Culloden, the extension of hospitality to Prince Charles Edward, a fugitive waiting an opportunity to reach a French ship "in the offing." This shelter he affords at the request of his wife. Now the public is aware that the partner in the past of Margaretta, now Lady Maclean, is the Prince. No sooner is he sheltered beneath her friendly roof than he seeks to renew his liaison with its mistress, and Sir Alan, entering the room, witnesses a sufficiently compromising struggle. In the course of the banquet openly given to the intruder, the Pretender, with his attendant Capt. O'Flanagan, gets drunk upon whisky, and succeeds by his indiscreet speech in further compromising his hostess, who, to prevent further revelations, upsets the table and plunges the room in darkness. When the lights are brought in the head of the Jacobites is discovered, supine and unconscious, upon the floor. Another act is required to secure the escape of the Prince and to bring about a reconciliation between the lady and her husband, who accepts, with a serenity worthy of a husband of Lafontaine, the statement that what he has seen and heard is without significance.

There is, as has been said, idea in all this, but the manner in which it is carried out is singularly crude. The whole *appareil* of priest, retainer, and the like is ineffective and amateurish. Some attempt to supply colour was perceptible in a Scottish Whig doctor and a Highland courier who, in language reminiscent of Campbell's Lochiel, described the rout at Culloden. Mrs. Patrick Campbell as Margaretta struggled with the difficulties of an uncomfortable part; Mr. Frank Worthing was the accommodating and credulous husband; and Mr. Harcourt Williams the indiscreet and bibulous Pretender. The whole was received with a moderate amount of favour by a perplexed and unconvinced audience.

The Electra of Euripides. Translated into English Rhyming Verse, with Explanatory Notes, by Gilbert Murray, LL.D. (Allen.)—If Mr. Murray's 'Electra' is less attractive than his 'Hippolytus,' his 'Bacchæ,' or his 'Trojan Women,' as we think it is (we speak only of it as a book to read, not of the play as it has been seen on the boards of the Court Theatre), it is not from any failure of skill on the part of the translator. The three earlier plays, as we said at the time of their appearance, touched, in our opinion, very nearly the high-water mark of Greek poetry in an English dress. The 'Electra' does not make quite the same impression on us; but then the 'Electra' is not in itself on a level with the three others. Mr. Murray, indeed, makes a strong plea for it in his introduction. Sophocles, he says, evades the full horror of the situation presented by the legend, by treating it as the outcome of an archaic code of morals, in which vengeance was a sacred duty. Æschylus faces it in all its fullness, and tries to surmount it on the sweep of a great wave of religious emotion. Euripides, equally sensitive to the horror, refuses to be satisfied with this

solution: to him the matricide remains a sin, and if Apollo ordered it, then Apollo did that which was evil. Further, Euripides was mainly interested in the human side of the tragedy, and tried to realize more vividly the persons who enacted it. His Electra is "a woman shattered in childhood by the shock of an experience too terrible for a girl to bear; a poisoned and a haunted woman, eating her heart in ceaseless broodings of hate and love, alike unsatisfied"; a pitiable rather than a lovable character. Orestes is an exile, with a fixed desire for revenge, which is confirmed by the oracle of a god; yet he shrinks from the slaying of his mother, and needs to be stiffened in his resolve by his more pitiless and stronger sister.

All this may be admitted, and yet one may remain dissatisfied with Euripides's solution of the problem. If such a subject is to be treated at all, not as a mere welter of horrors, but as a drama in which the principal actors preserve our sympathy, it can only be by keeping it upon the heroic, legendary scale, by heightening the wickedness of Clytemnestra's original crime, the promptitude of the vengeance, and the force of the divine decree which declares that the evil is so monstrous that even matricide has become a duty. In Æschylus's trilogy we feel that we are in the presence of a colossal tragedy, transcending human experience, and justifying action which on the purely human plane would be unjustifiable. In Sophocles we feel that we are looking at an ancient world, in which the canon of permissible acts of punishment and vengeance was different from that of a later day—much as we look at certain narratives of the Old Testament. But when Euripides brings the story down to the human level, and tries to present Clytemnestra and Electra as women of like passions with those of his own (or our own) day, the story becomes impossible. Ægisthus is allowed to excite our compassion; he welcomes two strangers hospitably, and is treacherously slain during the performance of a religious ceremony. Clytemnestra is "a sad middle-aged woman . . . anxious to be as little hated as possible"; pleading with Electra for comprehension, if not admission, of the grounds for her conspiracy against her husband, baring her breast to the slaughter when her children confront her, sword in hand. The story may be humanized, the characters may be real and individually intelligible; but it has become a story which should not be told. Euripides has justified neither God nor man; he has attempted a solution in which success was not attainable; he reaches "above and through his art; for it gives way." Consequently his drama fails to satisfy, as his greater tragedies satisfy us.

Mr. Murray's style is sufficiently well known by now to need no description. Possibly he is in danger of pushing too far his practice of heightening the whole colour-scheme (if the metaphor be allowed) of his language. We do not retract anything that we have said before in approbation of this theory, which we believe to be the true theory of translation, and capable, in the hands of a poet (as Mr. Murray is), of excellent results; but we do not want wholly to lose the effect of the Greek simplicity and directness, to substitute too completely the highly coloured diction of Mr. Swinburne and Rossetti. Mr. Murray appears to us to be in some danger of this excess; may it be in part due to an unconscious attempt to justify his poet by strengthening the weak points in his play? Nevertheless, the translation retains the supreme merit of being real English poetry without ceasing to be a fair rendering of the Greek; and

once again Mr. Murray shows his keen sense of the dramatic situation, and his belief that the poet's words must be interpreted in the light of that situation and of the emotions which we must suppose to be passing through the minds of his characters. Mr. Murray is at once scholar, poet, and dramatist—a combination which goes far towards making the ideal translator of Euripides.

We notice that in some places Mr. Murray adopts readings different from those which he has placed in his edition of the Greek text of the play (e.g., ll. 878, 984, and the attribution of ll. 1213-17). Are we to conclude that in the one case the instinct of the poet, in the other the conscience of the scholar, was allowed to prevail?

Dramatic Gossip.

IN London and in Paris the summer season seems short and unprosperous, the reason advanced in both capitals being the same—the want of fibre in the pieces produced. With the exception of the houses held by foreign actors, scarcely a novelty is announced in this country for immediate production, and arrangements for the autumnal season are in progress or in contemplation at many houses.

At the close of her engagements in this country Miss Ellen Terry will, under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman, undertake an American tour, in the course of which she will appear in the plays in which she has been recently seen in this country and in one new one.

The concluding nights of M. Coquelin's tenure of the Royalty were occupied with 'Cyrano de Bergerac,' in which the actor repeated his fine performance of Cyrano, M. Jean Coquelin playing the pasty cook, and Madame Devoyod, Roxane.

The season at the Royalty of Madame Réjane began with her first appearance in 'Suzeraine,' a four-act play constructed by Dario Nicodemi from a story by Henry Harland, entitled 'The Lady Paramount.' Few opportunities are furnished the actress by a work the action of which is placed in an imaginary island of the Adriatic.

At the Scala Theatre the Incorporated Stage Society gave on Monday afternoon two novelties. The more important of these—if the use of such a term is justified in the case of two works of remarkable crudity—consisted of 'The Inspector-General,' a farcical comedy by Gogol, adapted by Mr. A. A. Sykes. This gives some rather extravagant pictures of Russian official life. 'The Invention of Dr. Metzler' is a gloomy study by Mr. John Pollock, the heroine of which was played by Miss Gertrude Kingston.

Mr. H. B. IRVING has acquired the American and Canadian rights of the 'Paolo and Francesca' of Mr. Stephen Phillips, and proposes to include the piece in his travelling repertory.

'TRISTRAM AND ISEULT,' by Mr. Comyns Carr, will be the autumn production at the Adelphi. In this piece, which conforms in many respects with the 'Morte d'Arthur,' Miss Lily Brayton will be Iseult and Mr. Oscar Asche, King Mark.

At the close of Mrs. Patrick Campbell's season the Criterion will pass into the hands of Mr. A. H. Canby, who will produce 'The Prince Chap,' a three-act comedy extracted by Mr. E. H. Peple from his book of the same title.

A THIRD series of Pastoral Plays, consisting of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' 'The Tempest,' and 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' begins on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Patrick Kirwan, at the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens.

MR. JOHN LANE has arranged to issue a series of books dealing with well-known actors, actresses, and dramatists, similar in scope to the successful 'Living Masters of Music.' The new series will be entitled 'Stars of the Stage,' and will be under the editorship of Mr. J. T. Grein.

MISCELLANEA

"CAIN" AS A SYNONYM OF THE MOON.

Fiveways, Burnham, Bucks.

In a rare seventeenth-century booklet, entitled 'The Strange Fortune of Alerane; or, My Ladies Toy' (London, 1605), which has recently passed through my hands, occur the following lines, in which "Cain" appears to be used as a synonym of the moon. The author is speaking of two hapless lovers the course of whose true love was not running smooth:—

But see how Cupid like a cruel (Caine)
Doth change faire daies and makes it frowning weather:
These Princes joyes, he over cast with paine,
For 'twas not likely they should match together.

To readers of the 'Divina Commedia' the connexion of Cain with the moon is familiar enough, for Dante twice refers to it—once in the twentieth canto of the 'Inferno,' where he speaks of the moon as "Caino e le spine"; and again in the second canto of the 'Paradiso,' where, in a discussion as to the origin of the spots on the moon, he says they make folks on earth talk fables about Cain. The Italian popular belief identified the "man in the moon" with Cain bearing a bundle of thorns (see my 'Dante Dictionary' s.v. 'Caino'). A somewhat similar belief, though not apparently connected with Cain, was current in England; witness Henryson's "Churl... beirand ane bunch of thornis on his bak" in the 'Testament of Cresseid,' and Shakespeare's "man in the moon" with his "thorn bush" in 'The Tempest' (II. ii.) and 'Midsummer Night's Dream' (III. i, V. i.); but I know of no other instance in English literature in which the "man in the moon" (or rather, the moon itself) is identified with Cain, as appears to be the case in the above passage. Possibly there may be some other interpretation of the expression, but so far I have had no suggestion.

PAGET TOYNBEE.

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